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FEATURES

Curator's Choice

Free half-hour talks offered during holidays at the DIA **PAGE 1B**

SPORTS

Perfect start

North volleyball team wins first two MAC Red matches **PAGE 1C**

Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 67, NO. 51, 42 PAGES
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DECEMBER 21, 2006
 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Week ahead

17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

THURSDAY, DEC. 21

◆ Information to be considered for the Dec. 28 news and sports sections must be received by 3 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 24

◆ Children's liturgy at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Park, begins at 4 p.m. There will also be a midnight Mass.

◆ Masses at St. Paul Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, will be at 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m., noon, 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. and midnight.

◆ Advent worship at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, is at 11 a.m. Family worship is at 5 p.m. Communion and candlelight worship is at 7:30 p.m. and a candlelight service is at 10 p.m.

◆ St. John's Episcopal Church, 50 E. Fisher Freeway, Detroit, offers its children's pageant service at 5:15 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. carol prelude service with a festive candlelight service at 11 p.m.

◆ St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park, will have a 4 p.m. Mass, followed by the children's nativity pageant at 6 p.m. Caroling at 11:30 p.m. precedes the midnight Mass.

◆ Christmas Eve services will be held at 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. at St. James Lutheran Church, 170 McMillan, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, holds a family and children's service at 4 p.m. and a festival Eucharist at 10 p.m.

◆ Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms, will have a 4 p.m. family service, a 9 p.m. candlelight service and an 11 p.m. Holy Communion, candlelight service.

◆ St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms, holds services at 10 a.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. with communion.

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, has scheduled a 10 a.m. service, a 5 p.m. family service and an 11 p.m. candlelight service.

See WEEK AHEAD, page 3A

Opinion	8A
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PHOTO BY RENE LANDUYT

Decked out for holidays

The Wardwell House on Jefferson in Grosse Pointe Park has been decorated with traditional green wreaths and red bows on its windows and doors. Like a looping necklace, the picket fence has been adorned with green swags. The overall appearance of the historical house is one of a Christmas card wishing all happy holidays. More Christmas photos on page 23A.

GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Questions answered on Hollywood

By Bob St. John
 Staff Writer

More than two dozen residents attended the Grosse Pointe Woods' city council meeting Monday night to hear new information presented in connection with shots fired after a Nov. 11 party in the 900 block of Hollywood.

"The investigation is still open and we're taking this incident very seriously," Woods Public Safety Department Director Mike Makowski said. "Everyone in our department is providing hours of service to

Crime Stoppers

Anyone with information concerning the Nov. 11 incident of shots fired in the air following a party on Hollywood in Grosse Pointe Woods should call Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAK UP (773-2587). Calls are anonymous and a reward may be offered.

solve this matter. It is urgent that we find out who fired this weapon and make an arrest."

The incident began after a birthday party the night of Nov. 11. The birthday girl invited

several friends, who in turn invited more friends.

After an altercation occurred between some of the party-goers later that evening, chaperones broke up the party and made everyone leave the house.

The mother of the girl said she saw four boys get into a car and one of them fired a gun into the air, Woods detective Dan Koerber said.

He added they have talked to all of the teenagers who were on the party list and their par-

See SHOTS, page 10A

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Fewer students expected

Enrollment projected to fall in 2007-08 by 33 students

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff Writer

A drop in elementary school enrollment is expected to result in a net loss of 33 students next year in Grosse Pointe public schools.

Because enrollment is used to determine how much state education funds are due the district, the forecast has Pointe administrators hunkering down for a hit in next year's budget.

"A 33-student decrease (is) about a \$330,000 decrease in revenue," said Chris Fenton,

assistant superintendent of business affairs and conductor of the forecast.

"This (forecast) is of assistance to us as we begin the budgeting process," said Superintendent Susan Kleijh. "We begin at this time of year taking a look at what our enrollment is."

With total district enrollment this year of 8,899 students, Fenton isn't worried about being on the cusp of a 33-student slide amounting to less than 1/2 percent.

See SCHOOLS, page 3A

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE

Parking deck setback upped

Residents request more elbow room

By John Lundberg
 Staff writer

Kercheval Place won't be all "decked" out for Christmas, but City of Grosse Pointe officials are making a list and checking it twice.

Responding to neighbor's concerns over the proposed parking garage behind Kercheval Place in the Village,

the City council has made significant revisions to the structure plans that were introduced to the community three weeks ago.

One of the largest complaints from neighbors was the proximity of the garage and ramp to their property. Initially the deck was proposed to be as close as four feet from the residential property line. But, by moving the ramp indoors, the setback for the two-story struc-

See DECK, page 10A

POINTER OF INTEREST

'When people commit to each other, there's an obligation.'

Jeanne Lizza



Home: Grosse Pointe Woods
Family: Husband Michael; children Alison, Micaela, Maria and Thomas
Claim to fame: President of Special Kids and creator of Grossepointeopoly game
 See story on page 4A

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Yesterday's headlines

1956
50 years ago

HOUSE IS TAXABLE: The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores lost the first round in its bid to be declared a tax exempt charitable institution.

FIRE DESTROYS WOODS HOME: A Grosse Pointe Woods family lost everything they owned after a fire gutted their home.

The fire, which grew so intense that the first floor windows popped from their frames, was caused by faulty wiring, fire officials concluded. The home's owner, Harry Marley, was trapped by the blaze and was forced to jump from a second floor window. He suffered minor injuries. The remaining family members escaped uninjured.

GROSSE POINTE PROJECT WORKER DIES: In her will, Eleanor Ford, who left a \$15 million endowment for maintenance and operation of the estate, suggested after a construction worker was found unconscious at a work site in the Village shopping district.

The man was found by a coworker and was rushed to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Officials believe the man may have suffered a heart attack.

WOODS POLICE SNIFF OUT FIRE: Grosse Pointe Woods police, who doubt as quickly enough to subdue a fire at a funeral home under construction at Vernier and Mack.

Officials said workers had rigged an oil-fed portable stove to heat the family room, a first aid room, weight room and a small canteen.

RESIDENT SUES WOODS, COMPANY: Grosse Pointe Woods and a company named in a lawsuit filed in Wayne County Circuit Court by a resident who was injured by one of the company's vehicles.

The suit contends the victim was injured by one of the workers who was allegedly under the influence of alcohol when his front loader crashed into the victim's vehicle. The lawsuit seeks an unspecified amount of damages.

1981
25 years ago

RULING SAYS FORD

1981
10 years ago

WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT NEARLY DONE: The Park city hall renovation has

1981
5 years ago

CONTRIVERSIAL COUNTY TAX HIKE HANDED DOWN: Grosse Pointe

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1996
10 years ago

PHASE II OF PARK CITY HALL UPGRADE BEGINS: Construction of the second hall in the spring.

SCHOOL BOARD TALKS MUSIC TUTORING POLICY: After two months of discussion regarding the school district's in-school music tutoring program, the school board has tabled the policy with plans to take it up next January.

The policy, which limits in-school voice and instrumental tutoring to students only during lunchtime or after school, has been the source of contention since the policy was enacted in July.

A proposed revision to the policy allows for tutoring when a music teacher is available to coordinate and supervise. The board will revisit the issue at its next meeting.

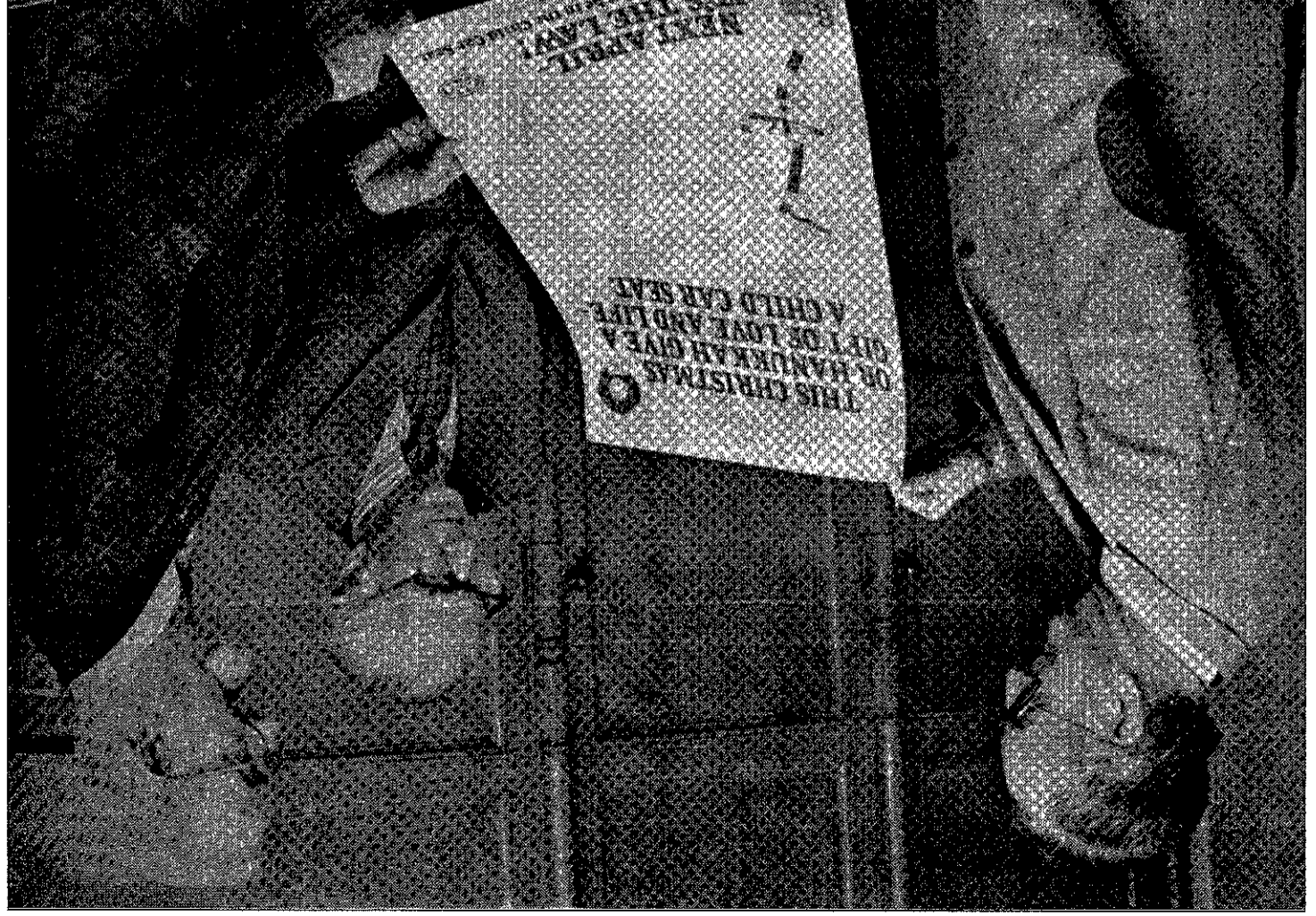
1981
25 years ago

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1981: Think safety this Christmas

With the child car seat law going into effect in the next few months, representatives from the committee that drafted the law are urging purchase of the seats as gifts now because demand has far surpassed current supply. Pictured from left are Arthur Gibson, manager of community relations for AAA Michigan, Ross Roy, chairman of the Traffic Safety Association (TSA) and W. Howard Cox, president of TSA.

SHORES AUTOMATES PHONE SYSTEM: The Village of Grosse Pointe Shores has purchased a voice messaging system that will almost instantly contact its residents regarding the school district's in-school music tutoring program, the school board has tabled the policy with plans to take it up next January.

The computer and phone technology is a scaled-down version of programs used for mass market political and advertising campaigns that can send up to 600,000 prerecorded phone messages in an hour. Village residents have the option of removing their phone numbers from the database.

PARK WANTS DOT BUS STOP OUT: Frustrated by complaints from residents regarding the shutdown conditions at the Detroit Department of Transportation's bus turnaround at Wayburn and Jefferson, the Grosse Pointe Park city council has proposed closing off Wayburn to prohibit the buses from coming through.

The turnaround marks the eastern terminus of the transit route along East Jefferson from downtown Detroit to the city limits. Park residents want DOT to spruce up the area where the buses routinely lay-over at the site.

COOK SCHOOL bid awarded
G.P. WOODS

COOK SCHOOL bid awarded
G.P. WOODS

—By John Lundberg

COOK SCHOOL bid awarded
G.P. WOODS

—By John Lundberg

GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Lake Front pool coming along

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

Refurbishing the city pool at Grosse Pointe Woods' Lake Front Park is ahead of schedule.

Woods Parks and Recreation Director Melissa Sharp said, "The people (from B&B Pools) are using heated tents to help them complete the work and they say it might be done at the end of April if the weather cooperates."

Otherwise, the pool will be ready for Memorial Day weekend, which is the traditional opening for the facility.

The handicapped ramp and the steps have been poured with concrete. Workers have also begun to install the liner to the mushroom pool, the second baby pool.

Once completed, work will begin on the main pool liner.

"The work has gone extremely well," councilmember and recreation commission council representative Vicki Granger said. "Hopefully the weather will stay mild so the workers can get a lot done."

Council gave its approval to spend \$1.1 million on the entire project, which includes a new liner, renovations and engineering costs.

The end of the pool with the diving board has been deepened to adhere to state codes.

"The deepened part of the pool is a preventative measure so swimmers don't injure their necks diving too deep," Sharp said. "The pool will be better for everyone who uses it."

Other renovations include installing anchors for 10 starting blocks on three sides of the pool and for stations to be used with the 50-meter course.

The pool is also equipped with an AquaClimb, a modular wall consisting of 3-foot by 3-foot fiberglass panels. Each panel can be turned in four different ways to change the level of difficulty.

"Our pool should be packed again in the summer," Granger said. "We hope all of the changes will bring in more families. That's what the pool is here for."

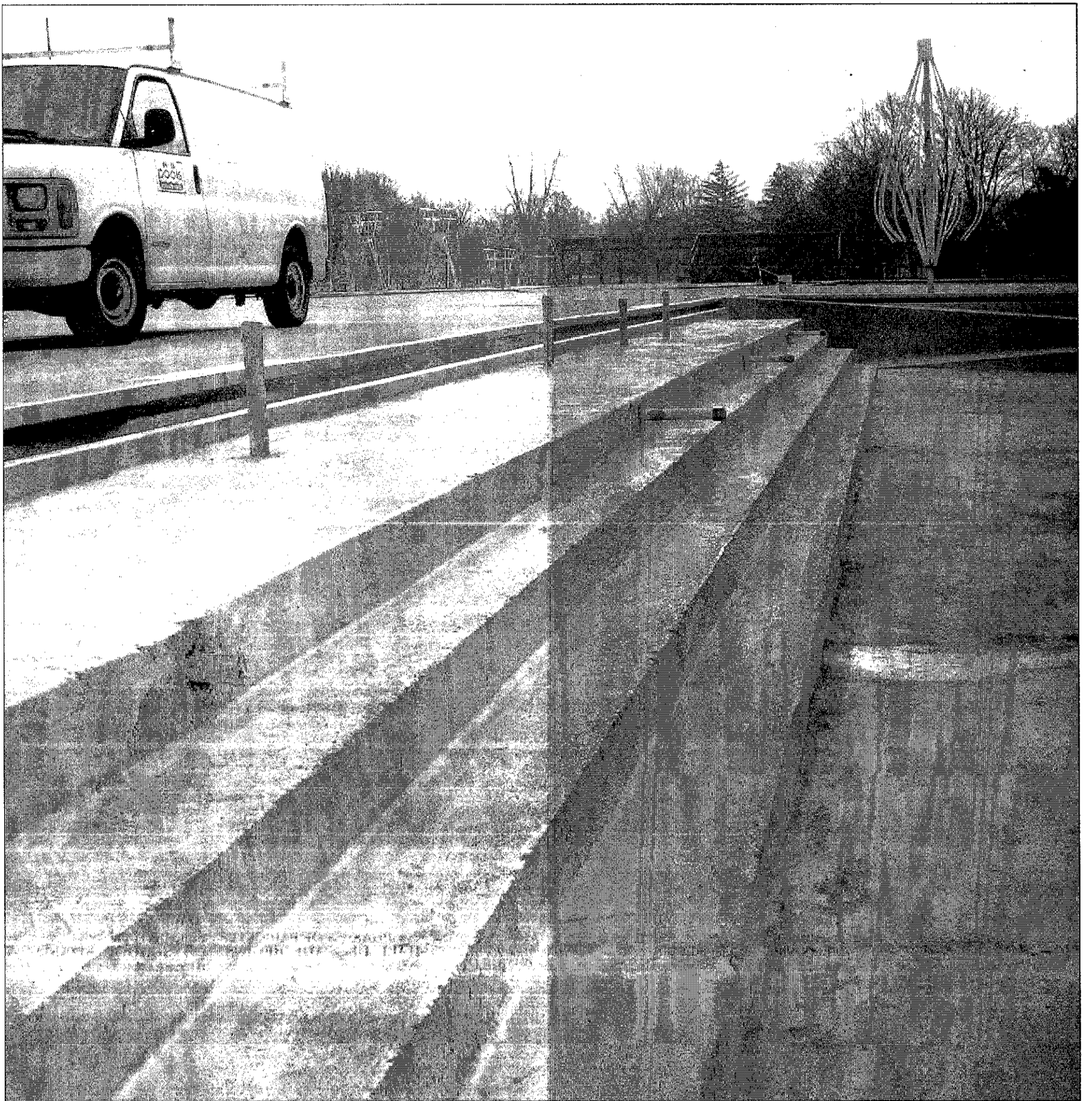


PHOTO BY VICKI GRANGER

Pictured above is a current view of the Lake Front Park pool after D&B Pools workers poured the cement for the steps and handicap ramp.

SCHOOLS: Enrollment is stable

Continued from page 1A

"If you look over the course of the next few years, I call this stable enrollment," Fenton said. "There is no dramatic decrease."

He has been working on projections for about a month.

"We factor in our recent history and make projections forward," he said.

Fenton cautions that projections are just predictions.

"You might see an increase here or decrease there," he said.

Elementary

This year's elementary school enrollment of 3,505 students is forecast to drop by 47 students next year.

Fenton said the biggest decline will occur in fourth and fifth grades. Schools facing the biggest drops are spread throughout the district:

◆ Ferry Elementary in the Woods, where an overall drop of 33 students is envisioned;

◆ Maire, in the City, a drop of 27 students and

◆ Trombly in the Park, forecast to lose 21 students.

On the flip side, Fenton thinks elementary schools at the north end of the district will shore-up overall losses:

◆ Poupard, in Harper Woods, is forecast to receive 24 new students,

◆ Mason Elementary, in Grosse Pointe Woods may have 18 new students.

Fenton extended his projections on a yearly basis through 2011-12, when he predicts overall elementary enrollment will reach 3,641, a 136-student increase from this year.

"I call this stable enrollment. There is no dramatic decrease. We factor in our recent history and make projections forward. You might see an increase here or decrease there."

Chris Fenton
Assistant Superintendent
for Business Affairs

Middle school

The short term downturn continues next year in middle school, but not by much.

"We're seeing a slight decrease in middle school of two students," Fenton said.

The district's three middle schools currently host a combined 1,982 students. Parcels has the most at 737, followed by 668 at Brownell and 577 at Pierce.

On deck for next year is a loss of 33 students at Parcels, the addition of seven students at Brownell and 24 more students at Pierce.

The five-year forecast ends with declines at all three middle schools: a 61-student drop at Parcels, 10-student drop at Brownell and eight-student drop at Pierce.

High school

Current high school enrollment is 1,534 at North and 1,622 at South for a total of 3,156. Next year, a three-student decline at North will be countered by 19 more students at South for a net increase of 16.

Fenton's five-year outlook sees high school enrollment during the 2011-12 year at 3,001, a drop of 155 students from this year.

WEEK AHEAD:

Continued from page 1A

◆ Grace United Church of Christ, 1175 Lakepointe, Grosse Pointe Park, will have a 4 p.m. candlelight service.

◆ First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, has scheduled a 5 p.m. candlelight service, a 7:30 p.m. candlelight service with Holy Communion.

◆ Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, will have a family service at 5 p.m. A candlelight service, with hand bell and adult choirs, takes place at 10 p.m.

◆ Three services will be offered at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, 10 a.m. 5:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. The latter includes

communion.

◆ First Christian Reformed Church, 1444 Maryland, Grosse Pointe Park, has a 6 p.m. service with lessons and carols.

MONDAY, DEC. 25

Christmas Day

◆ Mass of Christmas Day will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ There will be no mail service.

◆ Garbage pick-up will be delayed a day.

◆ All government offices will be closed.

◆ Christ the King Lutheran Church has slated a 10 a.m. service with Holy Communion.

◆ Mass at St. Clair of Montefalco will be held at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

◆ An 11 a.m. service will be held at St. James Lutheran Church, 170 McMillian, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ St. Michael's Episcopal Church will have an informal

Christmas Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.

◆ St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms, holds a 10 a.m. worship service with communion.

TUESDAY, DEC. 26

◆ Government offices reopen

at normal times.

◆ Services for Older Citizens' will hold an afterglow tea at 3 p.m. at the center, 17500 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27

◆ Copy for the Jan. 8 feature section must be received before 3 p.m.

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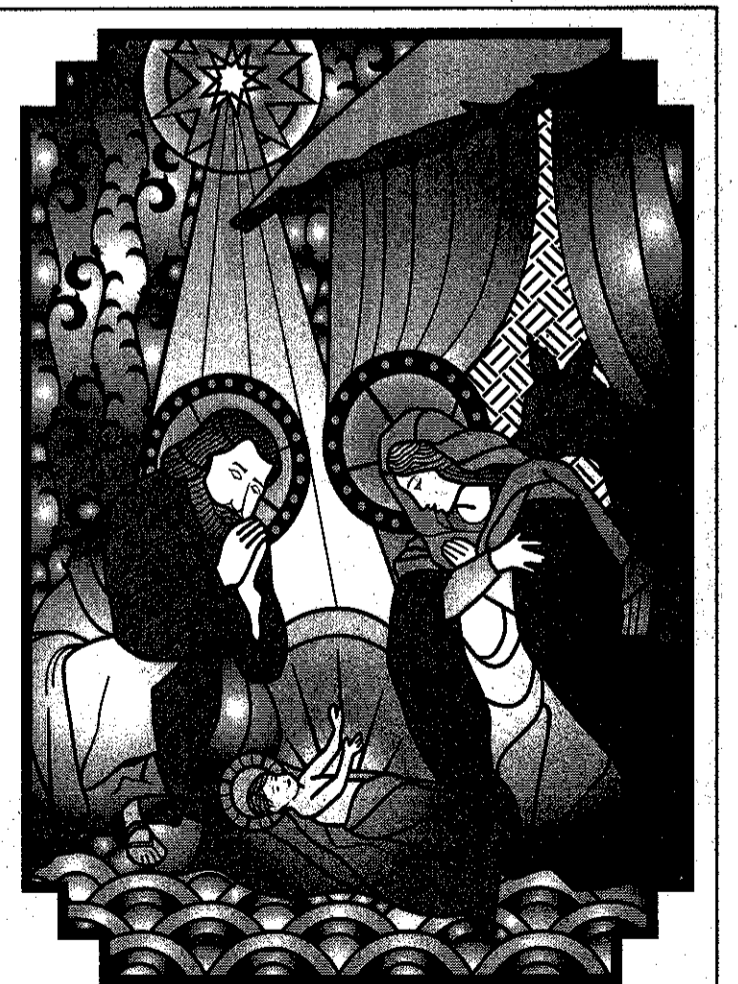
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8-8	8-8	8-8	9-6	8-8	8-8	8-8

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Reverence for life in Haiti

By Carrie Cunningham
Special Writer

I recently visited a hospital in Haiti and realized the meaning of true service.

The hospital is Hopital Albert Schweitzer (HAS) and began more than 50 years ago by William Larimer Mellon and his wife, Gwen.

Mellon read a Life magazine article about medical missionary and Nobel Peace prize winner Albert Schweitzer and was so riveted by the piece that he and Gwen decided to start a hospital for the poor in Haiti.

Part of the famed Mellon family that made their fortune in the oil and banking industries, Larry took a different path from his forbearers and chose to dedicate his life to serving others in need. The motto of the hospital derived from Schweitzer's advice to have reverence for life. The

hospital exudes this principle in every way.

I became interested in the hospital after reading a book titled "Song of Haiti" written by Barry Paris which depicted the selfless and productive lives of the Mellons' life in Haiti. I contacted the hospital staff and visited the hospital to see the wonder of its giving mission.

My first day in Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere, I arrived in Port Au Prince and drove three hours to Deschapelles where the hospital is located. I was accompanied by Ian Rawson, the poorest of the Mellons, and his wife Lucy as well as other workers and guests of the hospital. The city was bustling and poor and wooden shacks were everywhere. As we rode on primarily dirt roads, we saw people in the markets selling food and women dressed in bright floral dresses. We stopped for

peanut brittle and saw buses called tap raps packed with people and livestock. Compassionate messages about devotion to Jesus were painted on the vehicles.

One of the most memorable days occurred on a trip to a town called Petit Riviere. With Ian, a group of hospital staff and volunteers made the journey through mountains and across a river near the town. Ian and I took a rest at a local hospital and encountered a Haitian with a great story.

At first the Haitian seemed standoffish, but via a conversation with Ian he became friendly. He realized Ian was from HAS and told Ian that Gwen Mellon had treated him as a child. She came by every day while he was in the hospital and told him everything would be alright. She was right: He eventually healed.

This anecdote reveals the commitment HAS has towards its patients. The staff deals with Haitians with respect and compassion. The notion of reverence for life is real and the story provides a microcosm for the hospital at large.

The hospital offers help to hundreds of thousands of people living in Deschapelles via many medical services and community health programs. Diseases and conditions like AIDS, malaria, malnutrition and tuberculosis are treated by doctors and health workers from across the world, as well as from Haiti. They discuss various cases three times a week to educate the hospital's clinical staff.

Moreover, projects have been started to help the socioeconomic lives of Haitians. Family planning and land restoration are some of the notable developments at the hos-

pital

A distinct part of the hospital is the way workers help Haitians participate in their own health care delivery and improve their socioeconomic lives. The hospital charges a small fee for hospital services and trains Haitian workers to provide health care. Land restoration has been achieved through the combined work of HAS workers and Haitians.

A poem by one of Larry Mellon's friends, Dr. Y.C. Yen, encapsulated this philosophy. He wrote: "Go to the people.

Live among them.
Learn from them.
Love them.
Plan with them.
Start with what they know.
Build on what they have."

Two women exemplify Yen's concept in their work with Haitians.

Denise English, a physical therapist, has helped heal Haitians and trained them in her discipline. Starry Sprenkle, an ecologist, has assisted with tree planting in the mountainous region of Deschapelles.

On one of my first days at the hospital, I observed English treat women with strokes and dislocated joints. As she helped the women in walkers, two Haitian nurses, Yverose Thelusma and Jeanine Turrene, followed and learned about physical therapy. The women were captivated by English's caring.

"She is a good person to work with. She advanced my own knowledge," Thelusma said.

Sprenkle has instituted a tree planting project which has and will bolster the economic lives of Haitians. Last summer, Sprenkle, HAS members and local volunteers selected 10 plots in the mountains of Deschapelles and planted 100 trees on each of these plots.

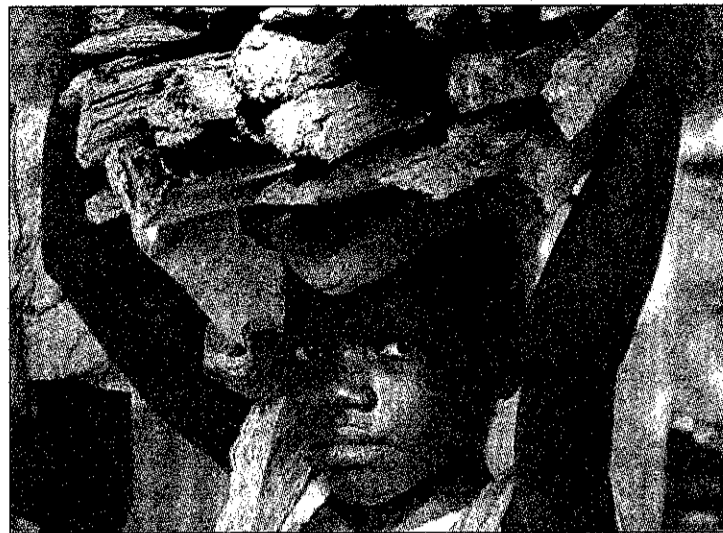


PHOTO BY KAREN WAGGONER

A Haitian woman carries goods in the Deschapelles region of Haiti.

The trees will both fertilize the soil so more crops can grow and also provide goods to sell when the trees mature.

The tree program involves an exchange between HAS and farmers. Sprenkle established a written contract whereby HAS will provide supplies and educational materials for planting and harvesting trees while farmers, in turn, are expected to tend to the trees and trade goods collected from them.

"Community development and HAS have a long history of asking for people's active participation in aid projects, and we are honoring that tradition. This empowers them," Sprenkle said.

Indeed, it seems the effect of this agreement is that any perceived notions of inequality are diminished, and Haitians feel imbued with respect. Speaking of Sprenkle, Haitian Levy Dorsainvil reveals this idea:

"She is courageous to go up into the mountains. She likes to work," he said. "She gives people the encouragement to work for themselves."

While HAS's medical care and community health and development programs have given life and hope to the thousands of Haitians living in Deschapelles, many problems still exist. Walking in the hospital, I saw the ravages of diseases like AIDS and malnutrition.

Additionally, the lives of Haitians in the valley and mountains of Deschapelles are hard. Women carry goods over long distances to reach markets in which to sell them. In one mountain community, I saw people who had to walk through steep crevices to obtain water for themselves and their malnourished livestock.

Nonetheless, the tradition of service that the Mellons built at HAS remains. Their example to the world, without an agenda and purely altruistic, should motivate people to help the poor.

As a friend of Larry Mellon's said: "It is only from within that the heart is moved, the soul acts. If progress in human affairs is accomplished, it is by this miracle."

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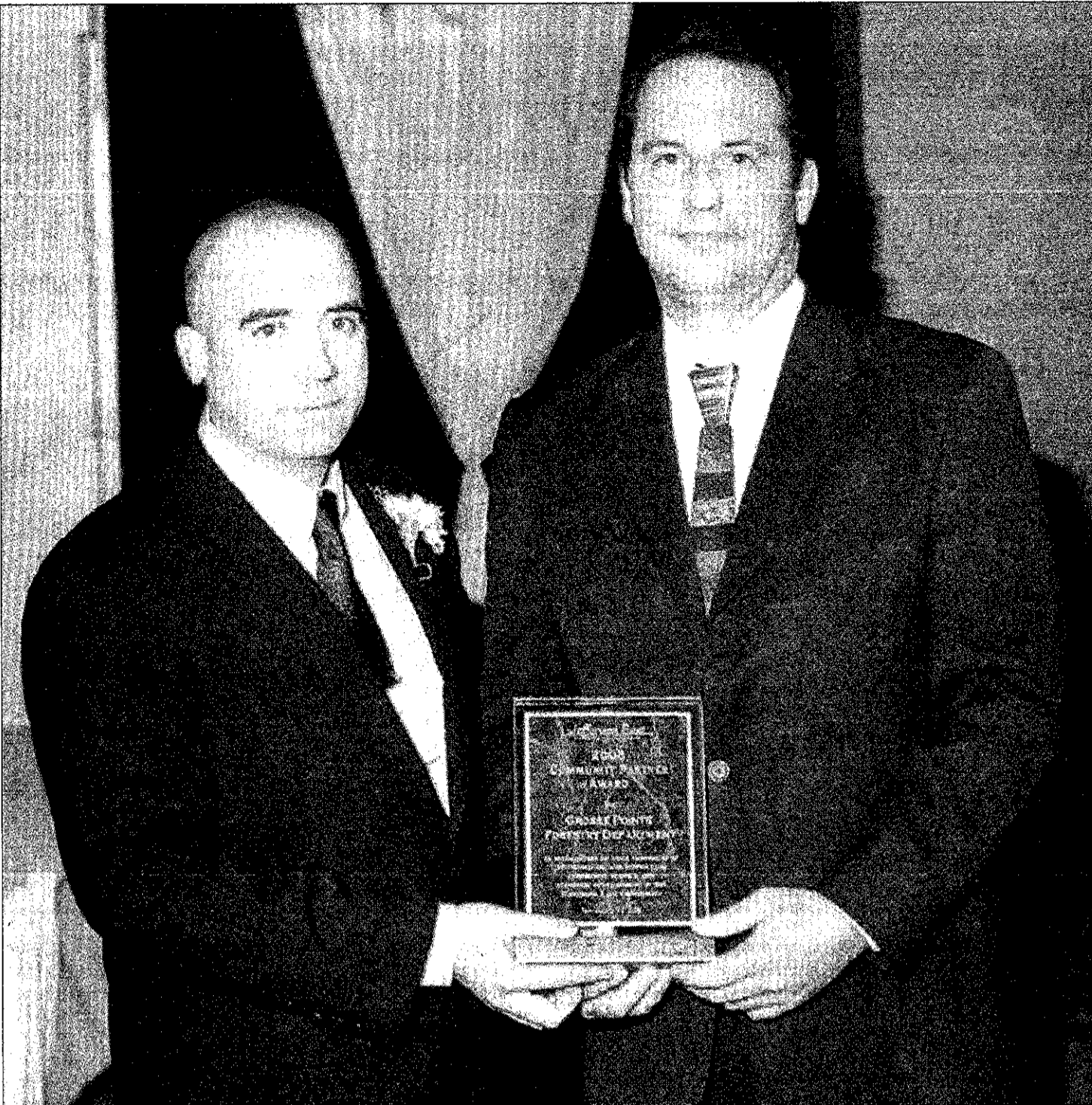
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Jefferson Business Association Executive Director Chris Garland, left, presented Grosse Pointe Park City Forester Brian Colter with a plaque for volunteering.

GROSSE POINTE PARK

Colter earns top accolade

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Park City Forester Brian Colter earned the Community Volunteer of the Year award from the Jefferson East Business Association during a ceremony Nov. 17.

Chris Garland, executive director of the Association, presented Colter with the plaque reading, "In recognition of your commitment and supporting community service and economic development in the Jefferson East community."

"It's always an honor to receive an award for helping out in the community," Colter said. "I enjoy the work and I enjoy helping others throughout our city here in the Grosse Pointe Park and Detroit borders."

"Brian has done a great deal of work in technical assistance and offered support for the Jefferson East Business Association and the residents and businesses in the area we help," Garland said.

Colter played an instrumental role in helping the Jefferson East Business Association rejuvenate the Fox Creek Park on Jefferson and the Detroit side of Altar.

"Brian was very helpful in suggesting plants and trees to make the park look nice," Garland said. "Brian's level of expertise is priceless."

Colter and his staff recently planted more than 100 trees during their annual fall planting season.

"It's great to plant the trees in the fall because they get a lot of moisture," Colter said.

GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Seats filled

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Woods' City Council approved nearly two dozen appointments to city commissions during a recent meeting.

Joseph Dansbury, Mark Miller and Michael Moore were reappointed to the Citizens Recreation Commission board, while Frieda Jossens, Candice Kerby, Madelyn Kleitch and Thomas Solomon were reappointed to the Community Tree Commission.

Mason Ferry, Ronna Gillis and Nancy Patek were reappointed to the Historical Commission, and Peter Gilezan was reappointed to the Local Officers' Compensation Commission.

Douglas Hamborsky and

Ahmed Ismail were reappointed to the Planning Commission. Nancy Hames decided to step down after her term expires and Joseph E. Sucher was appointed to take her spot.

Other candidates to fill Hames' spot were Matthew Boddy, Roland F. Day II, Thomas J. Fahrner, Duane W. Hartley, Sean Hendrick, Jeanne M. Lizza, John C. Mozena and John Sabol.

Rosemary Flanagan, Sharon Maier, Mary Rose Nelson, Frederick Petz and Joan Thorton were reappointed to the Senior Citizens' Commission.

The final reappointment was Frederick Kaleal to the Building Authority Committee.

All of the terms expire Dec. 31, 2009, except Gilezan's, which expires Dec. 31, 2011.

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EDITORIALS

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

From the Editorial Page of the New York Sun, 1897:

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor,

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in

The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O'HANLON

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if

Two wishes for Christmas

There are two things we would like for Christmas — and they are not a pair of incisors.

Rather, our Christmas wishes are for a Trader Joe's long-term lease for Kercheval Place in the Village and for an arrest in the recent rifle-fire incident on Hollywood in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Taking up the latter first, Hollywood residents were relieved Monday night to learn the alleged gunman was not a Grosse Pointe North High School student.

Police officials also said the parent at the Hollywood home involved acted responsibly by terminating her teenager's birthday party when it appeared it was getting out of hand. Building department inspector Gene Tutag reported all was in order with the rental status of the home.

The problem remains in that the teens are afraid to name the gunman who fired the shots in the air. To that end, an award is being offered through the anonymous tip line, Crime stoppers. We urge those who know anything to call Crime stoppers at (800) SPEAK UP (773-2587) — if for no other reason but to get a dangerous weapon off the streets.

Our first Christmas wish relates to the proposed redevelopment of the former Jacobson's building in the Village commercial district of the City of Grosse Pointe.

Currently, the council and city officials are working diligently coming up with plans for a new, two-level parking deck to replace the existing 30-year-old structure. The new parking facility is needed to meet the needs of specialty grocer Trader Joe's, which requires a significant number of flat parking spaces to accommodate shopping carts.

While Trader Joe's has submitted a letter of intent, we are told, it has yet to sign a long-term lease that would make the City's proposed \$4 million investment in a new parking deck feasible.

No doubt Mayor Dale Scrace would be pleased to find a 20-year Trader Joe's lease in his Christmas stocking this year.

Merry Christmas!

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PHIL HANDS



you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world. You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man,

nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!

LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your letters to the editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. Longer letters may be edited for length and all letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. Include a daytime phone number for verification or questions. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday.

Cook Schoolhouse: You can bank on it

To the Editor:

Without a doubt the schoolhouse move was a brilliant business alignment between Mr. Alan and the City of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Mr. Alan now gets to sell a very valuable piece of property he couldn't sell with the schoolhouse located on it and the city gets to preserve this little gem of a schoolhouse for next to nothing.

But something is askew with part of the plan. From what I read, a bank will be built where the schoolhouse once stood. Seriously, do we need another bank on Mack Avenue? Is it the goal of the

city of Grosse Pointe Woods to approve the building of a bank on every single block?

A bank is already on that block; I guess they think we now need two banks on every block.

We have a golden opportunity to create something unique and fun for the younger generation of this community and I'm sickened that the city would go along with the building of another bank.

ERIC WALTERS
 Grosse Pointe Woods

G.P. school system involvement

To the Editor:

The Grosse Pointe Public

School System trustees and administration have worked hard to improve communication with the residents. The latest improvement is a large one.

Visit the Web site gpschools.org and on the right side toward the bottom you will see agendas. In addition to the agendas, you will find agenda with board packet. Please read the agenda with board packet and think about it. Maybe print it, take it to your family room and make notes on it.

Better yet, print it, make notes on it and come to the board work sessions at 6 p.m. before the board meetings, then come to the board meetings at 8 p.m.

It is your dollars being spent, about \$130 million this year.

Your trustees have made it clear they welcome your thoughts and will listen to the residents. Visit the Web site gpschools.org and send them an e-mail.

Your trustees have to cut about another \$4 million from the budget this year. Give them your thoughts on spending your tax dollars yet keep

the quality of education up to high standards.

Trustees, administration, teachers and residents must work together. Residents, use the information the trustees and administration have provided to you. Help the trustees and administration. They have a big job to do and are working very hard.

Get informed. Get involved.
 CHARLES COLLINSON
 Grosse Pointe Park

Modernistic library design too much

To the Editor:

The Grosse Pointe Farms City Council, business owners and architects have done an excellent job in keeping the Hill traditional looking.

The new library designs would be wonderful in a large city; however, the building is way too contemporary for our Hill.

The builders have some good ideas, but the modernistic design does not fit in with the rest of our charming city. I hate to say it, but it would be an eyesore.

JULIE LATTIMORE
 Grosse Pointe Farms

GUEST OPINION By Jacob G. Hornberger

Anti-life justification of Iraq war

As the debacle of the U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq continues to spiral downward, sucking countless more people into its death throes, some of those whose philosophy contributed to the fiasco remain steadfastly unrepentant for the death and destruction they have wrought.

Among the unrepentant is George Weigel, senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, which describes itself as "Washington, D.C.'s premier institute dedicated to applying the Judeo-Christian moral tradition to critical issues of public policy."

The center's Web site describes Weigel as "a Roman Catholic theologian and one of America's leading commentators on issues of religion and public life."

Weigel recently wrote an article entitled "Baghdad 2006—Tet 1968?" published in the Dec. 7, 2006, issue of the Arlington Catholic Herald, the official newspaper for the Catholic Diocese of Arlington. In his article, Weigel writes,

"Reasonable people could, and did, differ about the prudence of the March 2003 invasion. My considered judgment remains that the allied action satisfied the conditions of a just war."

In support of his conclusion, Weigel points out that "the allied coalition that invaded Iraq had multiple goals: to depose a murderous regime, thereby ridding the world of a serious threat to international security; to empower the people of Iraq through a democratic process; and to create a new political model for the Arab-Islamic world."

Unfortunately, in his article Weigel failed to note an important point: To achieve those political goals, U.S. military forces had to kill Iraqi people — in fact, large numbers of Iraqi people — people whose government never attacked the United States. The estimates of the number of Iraqi dead range from a "low" of 30,000, provided by President Bush, to a high of 650,000, provided by researchers at Johns Hopkins University. In arriving at his conclusion

that the war on Iraq was warranted, Weigel is implicitly claiming that it is morally justifiable for U.S. soldiers, including Catholics, to kill Iraqi people (none of whom had anything to do with the 9/11 attacks) in order to achieve regime change in Iraq.

It would be difficult to find a more morally and ethically abominable and perverted view of human life than that. What Weigel is saying is that when measured against regime change in Iraq, the life of an Iraqi citizen — or the lives of thousands of Iraqis — is of only secondary importance.

One wonders whether there is even an upper limit to the number of Iraqi deaths that would cause Weigel to conclude that the Iraq War wasn't warranted after all — or whether his opinion on the war would be different if the number of American deaths matched the number of Iraqi deaths.

Weigel's position brings to mind the infamous response by former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Madeleine Albright, who was asked by 60 Minutes

whether the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Iraqi children from the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq had been worth it. She responded, "I think this is a very hard choice, but the price — we think the price is worth it."

Why shouldn't the issue of regime change have been left to the Iraqis, just as it was left to Eastern Europeans after U.S. officials delivered them into the clutches of the Soviet communists at the end of World War II? Under what moral or ethical authority does one nation impose involuntary regime change on another nation, especially when it will entail innocent people's deaths in the process?

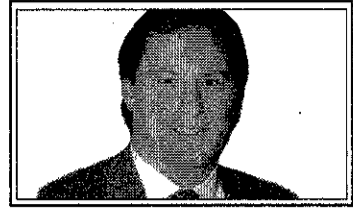
As the reality of the continuing carnage in Iraq becomes more vivid in the minds and consciences of the American people, Americans would be wise to reflect not on whether regime change in Iraq has been "successful," but instead on the following two principles:

1) It is morally and ethically

See IRAQ, page 10A

I SAY By Brad Lindberg

All aboard the Polar Express!



The best toy train deal of the Christmas season, or any time in recent years, is

Lionel's Polar Express. The set was a steal at \$249.99 when introduced in 2004. It still is, even at the current list price of \$289.99.

The set is headed by an O-27 gauge 2-8-4 Berkshire steam

locomotive numbered 1225 (as in December 25) with an operating headlight. The locomotive has a slotted cowcatcher with real slots, not molded-in detail.

Three lighted Madison-style passenger cars follow, complete with passenger silhouettes in windows. An observation car with a rounded rear platform, as in "The Polar Express" book and movie, brings up the rear.

The locomotive, tender and three cars measure more than six feet long.

Lionel added to the set an 80-watt transformer and 12 sections of FasTrack forming a

small layout.

FasTrack is Lionel's premium brand featuring rails atop a plastic roadbed. FasTrack is better looking than traditional track. More importantly for safety-conscious under-the-Christmas-tree railroad tycoons, the roadbed shields locomotive gears from carpet lint while protecting carpets from possible ignition by electric sparks.

Bought individually, the transformer and track total \$172.97.

Although Lionel doesn't sell the Polar Express engine separately, a similar engine listed in the 2004 catalog was priced at

\$199.99. Lionel sells Polar Express add-on passenger cars for \$59.99 each, bringing the whole set to more than \$430 if sold separately.

Berkshire steam locomotives on which the Polar Express model is based were introduced in 1925 by Lima Locomotive Works. The locomotives received their nickname by the Boston & Albany railroad, which used them to haul freight over the Berkshire Hills of western Massachusetts.

Other noted Lima products included Shay logging locomotives, streamlined Southern Pacific Daylights and

Chesapeake & Ohio Allegheny (named for the Allegheny Mountains) freight engines. An example of the later is displayed at The Henry Ford museum.

It's a few hours drive on southbound I-75 to the old Lima factory in Lima, Ohio. The company closed a decade ago. The shops are gone, but huge cement foundations remain where some of the best locomotives rolled off the line until the final Berkshire steamed away in 1949.

It's a shorter drive up Harper in St. Clair Shores to a hobby shop selling the Polar Express set for less than \$210. I bought

one last year as a gift. I'm thinking of getting one this year for myself. You get what you give.

The Polar Express engine is a good puller. I saw one recently speeding around a large layout hauling five O-scale passenger cars.

Volunteers at The Henry Ford generally add a Polar Express to the many trains operating on their holiday layout.

The actual steam locomotive on which Hollywood filmmakers based "The Polar Express" film version is owned by the Steam Railroading Institute in Owosso and used for tourist excursions.

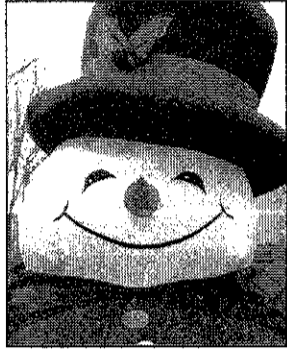
STREETWISE By Renee Landuyt

What is the best thing about Christmas?

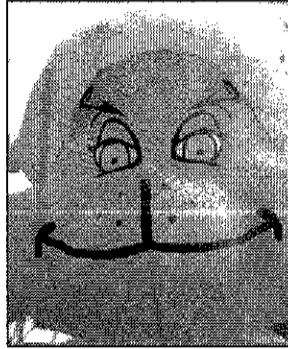
If you have a question you would like asked, drop us a note at 96 Kercheval on The Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or e-mail to editor@grossepointenews.com



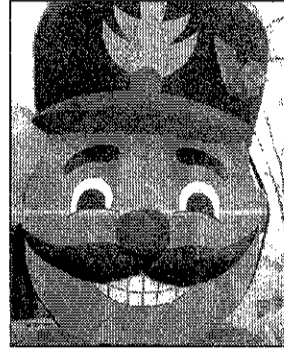
'Everything about Christmas is wonderful and I love being Santa's helper! We pass out toys to all the girls and boys!' CHRISTMAS CAROL Santa's Workshop, North Pole



'I am a jolly happy soul and Christmastime is when I magically come alive.' FROSTY North Pole



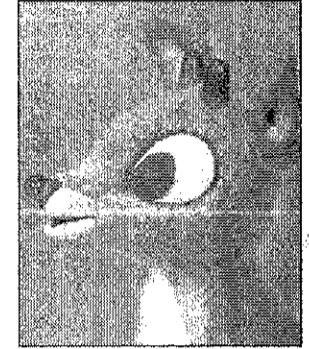
'The best thing is that I get presents now and I don't have to sneak them from the Whos in Who-ville.' THE GRINCH Who-ville, USA



'Christmas is when I turn into a Prince, go to the land of sweets and see the dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy.' THE NUTCRACKER Stahlbaum House, France



'Ho, ho, ho. This is my favorite holiday. My eight reindeer and I visit all the children, eat cookies and milk and leave presents under the tree.' SANTA CLAUS North Pole



'Christmas is when my nose so bright helps to guide Santa's sleigh at night!' RUDOLPH, THE RED NOSED REINDEER Christmastown

FYI By Ben Burns

An eagle soars over Arlington Cemetery



Marines — with the sixth having boots reversed and an empty saddle. The Marine Corps Band played a slow, mournful version of the Marine Corps Hymn, according to the Washington Post.

Here are some excerpted observations from the services by his high school buddy Terry Ayrault, of Grosse Pointe Park:

"Full burial honors included a full Marine band, bagpipes, presentation of the flag to his survivor by a general of the U.S. Marine Corps and a 21-gun salute in Trane's honor," Ayrault reported in an e-mail.

"The procession consisted of hundreds of Trane's

friends, family and military personnel from all of the four branches. It was extremely crowded," Ayrault wrote.

"He was a hero to many of the Marines who have succeeded under his tutelage. ... All of them uttered the same sentiments. ... He was a great leader ... who led by example, a man who embodied the spirit of the Marine Corps. ... All while being a loving father and husband and a devoted friend. "...It was quite moving to hear that he had done so many extraordinary things and had affected so many lives in his military service. He was a highly decorated soldier who made a difference to many others. It's humbling to realize we have all known such a great person. I hope you all have fond memories of Trane and will keep his family in your thoughts and prayers always. He will be sorely missed. ...

"During the ceremony, as if on cue, a bald eagle flew overhead. It was a coincidence that seemed to make perfect sense."

A local memorial service for McCloud, an '85 graduate of Grosse Pointe South, was scheduled at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church on Tuesday.

Home front

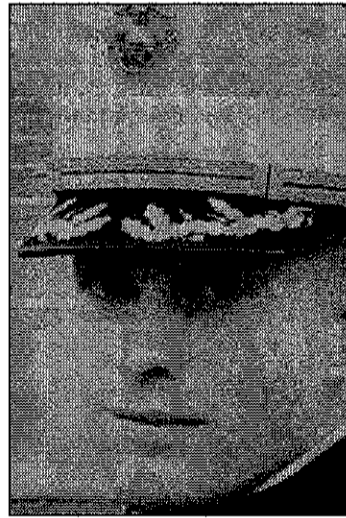
Meanwhile, the 23 students in the fourth- and fifth-grade split class of Ann Passino at Ferry Elementary School were shopping for Christmas gifts for a needy local family. The class project started six weeks ago with the thought that the students would do extra jobs at home to earn the money for the gifts, that they would keep an accurate accounting of the amount brought in and that they would stay within their budget when they got to Meijer to select the gifts.

Passino, who has taught at Ferry for seven years, said the brains behind the exercise was room mother Dawn Kain.

The students voted on what to call their lesson in budgeting, work ethic and service to an unknown family. Passino's Project lost out to Joe's Jobs when the votes were tabulated. When the job jar funds were finally counted, the group had raised \$200.



Ferry Elementary students raised money, budgeted and bought and wrapped gifts for a less fortunate family.



Lt. Col. Joseph "Trane" McCloud



A horse-drawn funeral bier and Marines transported flag-draped coffin of Lt. Col. Joseph Trane McCloud, the first known Grosse Pointe soldier killed in Iraq.



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Ben Burns of the City of Grosse Pointe is director of the journalism program at Wayne State University. He may be reached at burnsben@comcast.net or by phone at (313) 882-2810.

GUEST OPINION By Lee H. Hamilton

Now or never for ethics reform

The voters offered Congress an unparalleled opportunity on Election Day. Let us hope our legislators have the wisdom to seize it.

I'm talking, of course, about ethics reform. The upcoming session of Congress may be our best chance in a generation to enact meaningful reforms governing how Congress runs and polices itself.

Acting quickly, early in 2007, is crucial not only for addressing the problems that arose on Capitol Hill over the past several years, but also for restoring public confidence in a vital, but badly stained, American institution. Voters were clearly and unequivocally in the mood for reform in November and impatient with excuses for not moving ahead with it. There is no doubt in my mind they will be watching carefully to see what happens in January.

The signals coming from the

incoming House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, have been quite positive. She has said that the 110th Congress will be "the most honest, most open, and most ethical Congress in history," and the new House majority is already moving to put together a package of reforms. Republican leaders also seem supportive of efforts to prevent abuses of office.

So this is a hopeful moment — but it is only that. The hard work will come when Congress convenes and focuses on the details of changing fine words into deeds.

Some of what Congress needs to do is obvious. Banning all gifts, meals, and travel paid for by lobbyists is a key first step. So, too, are: requiring complete and readily accessible disclosure of lobbyist contacts with members of Congress; finding ways to restrict the access to sitting members by former members of Congress who have become

lobbyists; and tightening up on ways members enrich themselves while in office.

Simply put, the freewheeling atmosphere that once prevailed on Capitol Hill — at least until the Jack Abramoff scandal dampened the fun — needs to become a thing of the past.

Somewhat less obvious, but no less important, Congress should also own up to its own bad habits. The new majority has already indicated that so-called "earmarks" are off the table for the remainder of the fiscal year, but it also needs to act for the long term by requiring disclosure of who is responsible for each earmark that lards future budgets.

This is a slippery issue, because there are some earmarks — a bridge, a new post office, a badly needed highway interchange — that members are more than happy to be associated with back home. But there are other earmarks — most notably, appropriations aimed at funneling federal money to this contractor or that contributor — that their sponsors would prefer to remain cloaked. So talk of requiring full disclosure of "district-oriented earmarks" misses the point; it's those darker payments to interests that may not be located in a member's district that need the full light of day and thorough vetting.

Finally, I am heartened to see that the notion of an independent Office of Public Integrity, separate from the congressional ethics committee, is at last getting serious consideration by House members and senators on both sides of the aisle. This is a key reform. The

slap-on-the-wrist approach taken by the House ethics committee toward members who knew early on about former Rep. Mark Foley's behavior toward House pages is a classic illustration of how hard it is for Congress to enforce its own ethics code. Even though an independent office could at best make recommendations for enforcement to the ethics committees, its words would carry great weight and ensure that, at a minimum, the American public would have a trustworthy yardstick by which to judge the actions — or inactions — of its representatives.

The truth is, it takes two independent forces acting at once to keep congressional ethics on the front burner, both legislatively and in legislators' minds.

One is pressure from the voters, and with 42 percent having reported in exit polls Nov. 7 that corruption and scandals in government were extremely important in how they voted last month, public pressure is a key influence at the moment.

The other is a clear message from the bipartisan leadership of the House and Senate that this is important, and that they expect and will enforce the highest standards of conduct in Congress.

As long as members of Congress live up to what the American people expect and deserve, we have a good chance of regaining an institution that makes us proud.

Lee Hamilton is director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

SHOTS: This is a serious matter

Continued from page 1A

ents and have not come up with any suspects.

"We have sent this to Crime Stoppers, hoping that one of these kids will give an anonymous tip as to who the person was who fired the shots into the air," Koerber said. "Our witness said the weapon was fired straight up in the air and not at anyone or anything. We know this is a serious matter and we will solve this as soon as possible."

Detectives gathered several bullet casings at the scene, which were sent to Michigan State Police Crime Lab for analysis.

Makowski also reported the young man who fired the weapon and the other people in the car are not Grosse Pointe North students.

"We will proceed very aggressively to resolve this incident," Koerber said.

Grosse Pointe Woods Building Inspector Gene Tutag said the rental property on Hollywood is occupied by one adult and three minors.

"Our ordinance is working," Tutag said.

"I'm impressed with the response time of one minute of the Woods public safety department and of two minutes response time of the Grosse Pointe Shores public safety offi-

cers who gave assistance," Woods Mayor Robert Novitke said.

Residents were able to give their viewpoints to councilmembers and city officials.

If anyone has information concerning the incident can make an anonymous call to the national Crime Stoppers number at (800) SPEAK UP (773-2587).

The history of Crime Stoppers began in 1976 when a young student working part-time at a petrol station in Albuquerque, New Mexico, was shot dead during an armed robbery.

The investigating officer believed a member of the local community had committed the crime and that another local knew the identity of the killer, but was unwilling to come forward and talk to police.

The officer set up a telephone hotline so that anyone with information about the murder could make an anonymous call to the detective. If the information resulted in an arrest, the caller would receive a reward.

As a result of intelligence received by Crime Stoppers between 1989 and February 2006, 3,428 people have been arrested with more than 10,400 charges laid against them. More than \$8.6 million worth of stolen property and \$79 million worth of drugs have been seized. In addition, 34 homicides, 154 assaults, 235 armed robberies and 783 fraud cases have been solved as a direct result of information given to Crime Stoppers, according to its Web site.

City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On Monday, January 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., a Public Hearing will be held at Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, for the following variances and/or site plan reviews: **73 Kercheval.**

Plans are available at City Hall for review. Written comments will be accepted till noon, on the Friday before the hearing, or you may appear at the above scheduled date and time.

Matthew Tepper,
City Clerk

G.P.N.:12/21/2006

GROSSE POINTES - CLINTON REFUSE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY MEETING SCHEDULE

January 9, 2007 7:00 p.m. City of Harper Woods
19617 Harper Avenue
Harper Woods, MI 48225
(313)343-2500

For further information, please contact our General Counsel:

John J. Gillooly
Garan Luow Miller, P.C.
1000 Woodbridge Street
Detroit, MI 48207
(313)446-5501

Village of Grosse Pointe Shores

PLANNING COMMISSION

795 LAKE SHORE ROAD
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

A public hearing will be held at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, January 16, 2007 before the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores Council sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals to consider the following requests:

- The petitioner/property owner at 22 Oxford Road wishes to split his property into two separate, buildable lots. In addition, a variance is required for width to depth ratio of the resulting lots.
- The petitioner/property owner of 693 Lake Shore Road is requesting a variance to allow placement of a generator at the (south) side of the property.

Plans for the above projects are available for review at the GPS Municipal Building (2nd floor) during normal business hours 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Surrounding property owners may submit their written/oral comments at the hearing or prior to that time.

Victoria J. Boyce,

Village Clerk

GPN: 12/21/06

CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 4, 2006

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kenneth A. Poynter at 7:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present except council member Daniel S. Palmer.

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To excuse Councilman Daniel S. Palmer from tonight's meeting because of a prior commitment.
- 2) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held November 20, 2006, and furthermore, receive and file the minutes of the Board of Trustees Retirement System meeting held on November 27, 2006.
- 3) To receive and file the Management's Response to Auditors' Comments and Recommendations associated with the December 31, 2005 Financial Statements as prepared and submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director.
- 4) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- 1) To approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (1) Approve the Accounts Payable listing for Check Numbers 78943 through 79056 in the amount of \$565,546.50 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) Approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$5,224.00 for professional services during the month of October 2006 for the following projects: 2006 Concrete Pavement Repair program, #180-092; 2006 Pavement Joint & Crack Sealing project, #180-094 and the Target/Eastland Mall project, #180-097. (3) Approve payment to Bob Shomer Tree Service in the amount of \$8,060.00 for trimming 147 trees in conjunction with the ongoing tree trimming project, and for the removal of diseased Ash trees.
- 2) To approve payment to Car-Bee, Inc. in the amount of \$16,440.15 for the repairs made to the Powermaster Steam boiler that provides heat to City Hall and due to the need to make these emergency repairs that competitive bidding be waived.
- 3) To adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing a collective bargaining matter.

Kenneth A. Poynter,
Mayor

Published:G.P.N.: 12/21/2006

Mickey D. Todd,
City Clerk

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The Children's Pageant
The Choirs of Men and Boys

8:00 pm - Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II
The Choir of Girls and Men

10:30 pm - Carol singing led by The Choir of Men, Boys and Girls

11:00 pm - Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II
The Choir of Men, Boys and Girls (with incense)

CHRISTMAS DAY:

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II

Christ Church Grosse Pointe
61 Grosse Pointe Blvd.
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www.christchurchgp.org

DECK: Signed lease still lacking

Continued from page 1A

ture has been increased to 16 feet.

The proposed structure will sit 19 feet from Notre Dame and 35 feet from St. Clair.

Another revision is that the first level will house 90 flat level spaces, which is fewer than required by the developer, Grosse Pointe St. Clair Associates. To move ahead, the city needs the developer's OK, which Peter Dame, city manager, does not see as an obstacle.

"We don't anticipate a problem," he said.

Total capacity will be 220 vehicles.

Level parking is needed to accommodate a specialty grocer, which is now believed to be Trader Joe's East, in the rear of the building.

The first level will feature 90-degree parking stalls that are nine feet wide. Parallel parking is more efficient, for a same-size garage with angle parking would reduce the number of

stalls. The internal parking ramp will also allow for a few spaces, but be on a slope.

Traffic flow was another concern. The original design called for either one- or two-way traffic, but the council concluded that two-way traffic was best for "optimum" traffic flow.

The parking structure will be automated, with customers taking a ticket upon entrance. When they are finished shopping, they will have the ticket processed in an automated pay station in the lobby of Kercheval Place and deposit the paid ticket when exiting the garage. This eliminates the need for an employee-staffed ticket booth in the garage.

Design and construction is being managed by Rich & Associates, an architectural firm specializing in the construction of parking garages. Precast building materials will allow on-site construction staging, which will limit traffic disruptions on St. Clair and Notre Dame.

Security measures will include video surveillance and call alarm boxes for shoppers.

Aesthetics have not been overlooked with plans for precast panels inlaid with brick on the street sides, and decorative landscaping along the street edge. The exterior appearance will be detailed in the final plan, now slated to be submitted in January.

There was also talk over whether to construct a three-level garage, but budgetary constraints will only allow the city to build a two-story garage at the present time.

The city will not commence with construction until it has an executed lease agreement with a specialty grocer. Dame hopes to have a commitment from Trader Joe's East in the very near future. Once an agreement is reached, construction can begin as early as February.

IRAQ: Lives fair price for change?

Continued from page 8A

wrong to invade and occupy countries that have not attacked the United States; and 2) It is morally and ethically wrong for one nation to subordinate human life to the achievement of regime change in another nation.

Jacob Hornberger is founder and president of The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.fff.org) in Fairfax, Virginia.

PEOPLE



PHOTO BY BOB ST. JOHN

A new location

The Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society moved its office from Chalfonte to 18519 Mack. The move became official during a ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday, Dec. 5. Taking part in the ceremony were from left, Mary Huebner, Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce executive director, James Farquhar, Grosse Pointe Farms mayor, Muriel Brock and her newly adopted dog Lucy, Corinne Martin, Adoption Society president, Lynn Carpenter, Adoption Society vice president, and Shane Reeside, Grosse Pointe Farms city manager.

Builder seminars set for Jan. 12, 17

The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present an executive image seminar "Selling at the 2007 BIA Builders and Remodelers Trade Show" from 9 to 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 12, at its headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills.

The seminar, presented by the Executive Image Group, will cover how to qualify leads based on a conversation; how to motivate yourself after the show; understanding the life cycle of a lead; and how to get the lead to contact you after the show.

Registration fees are \$45 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$65 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

The BIA will also host its annual economic forecast for 2007 from noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17, at the Best Western Sterling Inn, 34911 Van Dyke Sterling Heights.

David F. Seiders, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders will provide an outlook for the residential construction industry for the entire United States and the southeastern Michigan region.

Registration for the economic forecast event, including lunch, is \$40 for BIA and Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$60 for guests. For registration in-

City of Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

NOTICE OF FINAL STATEMENT

Pursuant to Federal Guidelines, a public hearing has taken place before the Mayor and City Council on Monday, December 11, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Court/Council Chambers, 15115 E. Jefferson, for Public Comments and approval of the use of Federal Community Block Grant funding for the following projects:

Announcing the City's approved objectives and use of Federal Community Block Grant funds, subject to full funding by Wayne County, as herewith listed.

- Street Enhancement \$5,500
- Sanitary repair separation \$45,000

Services for Older Citizens

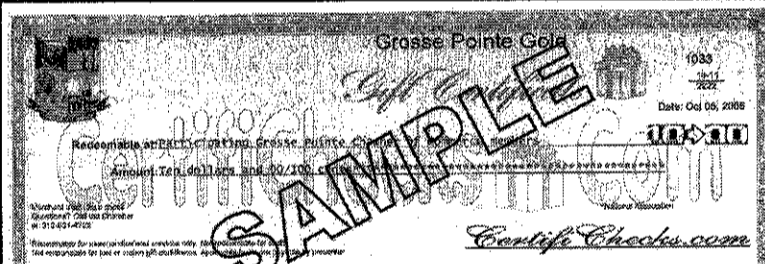
- Minor Home Repair \$10,000
- Case Coordination \$1,500
- Information/Referral Service \$1,000
- Meals on Wheels \$8,000

Chris Reimel,

Director of Community Development

G.P.N.: 12/21/2006

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MURIEL D. HUGHES was appointed judge of the 3rd Circuit Court by Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm, serving Wayne County. Hughes has been practicing law for more than 22 years with the firm of Hughes & Hughes PC, a general practice specializing in family law, real estate and probate. Among her many accomplishments, Hughes has served as Wayne County public administrator since 1987. In addition to being a mediator for the Mediation Tribunal Association 3rd Judicial Circuit, she has served as a

case evaluator for the Wayne County Circuit Court. She has also been an active, licensed real estate broker for 20 years. She is a current board member and past president of the Wayne County Probate Bar Association. She attended St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, graduating with a degree in business administration, economics and philosophy. She earned her law degree from the University of Detroit Law School in 1983. Hughes resides in Grosse Pointe Woods with her husband Robert Schneider and their two children.

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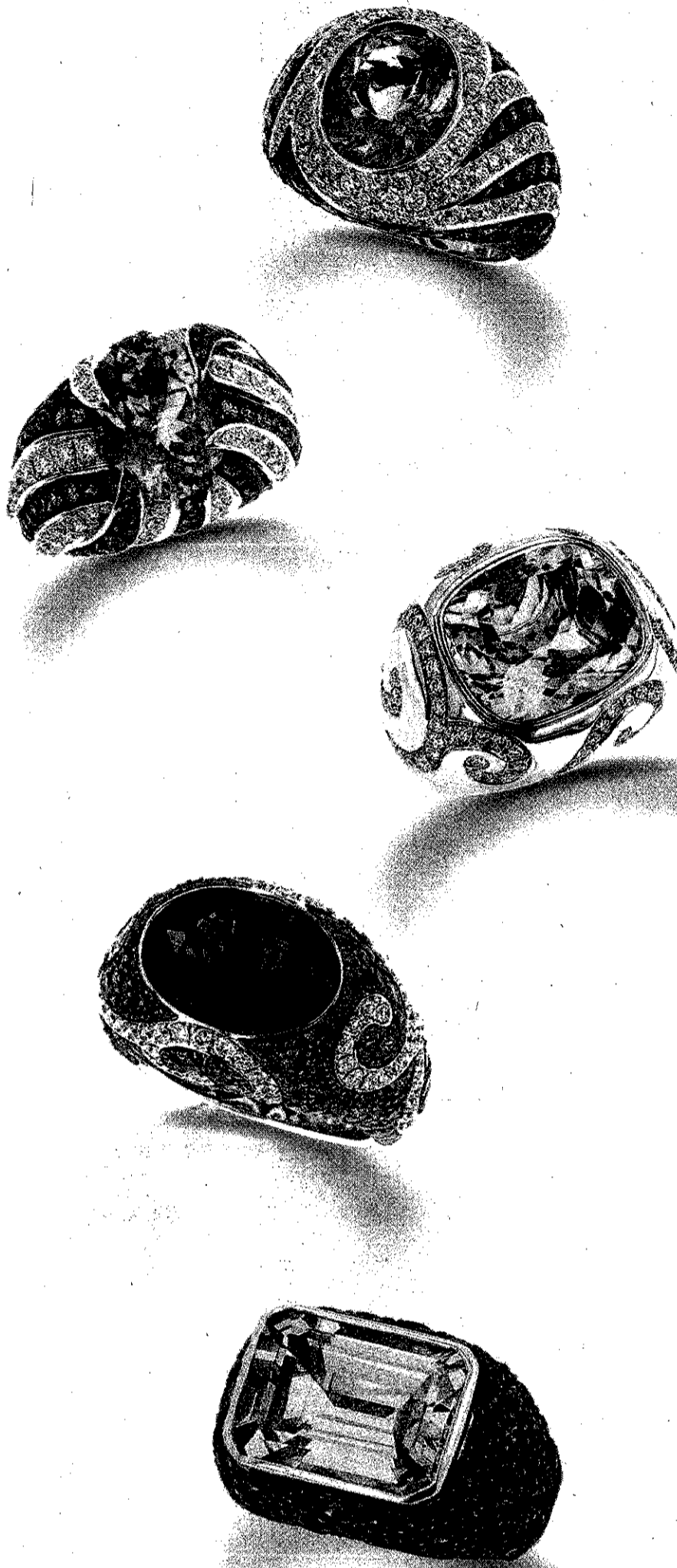
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NEWS II

AUTOS
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13-15A SCHOOLS | 17A OBITUARIES | 20-21A AUTOS

Squirrels find a best friend at Richard

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff writer

Squirrels living near Richard Elementary School are lucky first-grader Jay Cooper tends to window gaze.

Cooper, 6, rose from his desk to hand in homework a few days after Halloween when he looked out his first-floor classroom window to see squirrels jaywalking across the 100 block of McKinley to scavenge pumpkins from residential trash cans.

Cooper had seen the consequences of squirrels encountering cars and wanted to prevent further tragedy.

"I like squirrels," Cooper said. "They're interesting. My old neighbor used to feed squirrels."

"Worried, he came to me and explained that there were a lot of pumpkins in the trash and that several squirrels were crossing the street to get to them," said his teacher, Holly Bendure. "He was concerned that they would get hurt, or worse yet, killed crossing the street."

Cooper wanted Richard's head engineer, Jack Travis, to post a "squirrel crossing" sign on McKinley near where motorists line up to drop off and pick up students.

Bendure, whose teaching method includes linking in-class learning with real-world experiences, put her philosophy in motion.

"I told him it was a great idea," she said.

Principal Mary MacDonald-

Barrett saw an additional learning opportunity.

"I told Jay he'd better put his idea in writing because that's how we get things done in the world," Barrett said.

Bendure said, "Though constructing an entire letter is a lengthy, time-consuming task for a first-grader, Cooper eagerly came back asking for help in writing the letter."

Travis jumped on board.

"Children always come up with ideas for things to be done," said Travis, in his 25th year at Richard. "I figure, why not? When they request something, it's important that it be looked at to see if it's possible."

A few days later, Cooper helped Travis bolt a custom-made Plexiglas sign featuring the silhouette of a squirrel and the word "Crossing" below a "No Parking" sign on McKinley.

"Jay was excited and empowered," said Bendure, reinforcing the connection between learning and life skills. "He had made a difference. It's like government, too. When people have opinions and feelings, they write and work to make change."

"We have a very caring community at McKinley and are aware of people and, apparently, animals in need," Barrett said.

Bendure has taught at Richard for seven years.

"Teaching is more rewarding than I ever could have imagined," Bendure said. "Especially in first grade when children show me they can



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Squirrels crossing McKinley in front of Richard Elementary School have friends in Jay Cooper, a first grader, and Jack Travis, Richard's head engineer.

read a story or write a word. It's them being proud of learning."

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Walter Nieren, Luck Ranch, Spicewood, Texas, 2003. Copyright © 2004 by Annie Leibovitz

ANNIE LEIBOVITZ: AMERICAN MUSIC is sponsored by Experience Music Project, Seattle and all words are courtesy of Annie Leibovitz. In Detroit, the exhibition has been made possible by a generous grant from LaSalle Bank. Additional support provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit.

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Alexis Means, event chair for St. Clare of Montefalco Church, organized a dinner-dance that yielded more than 250 Christmas gifts for needy children.

They danced for children

More than 185 children and Peauwe, Judson Center development officer. "They were so excited to be able to help other kids and this was a way they could do their part."

Festivities included a spaghetti dinner, photos with Santa and arts and crafts projects for children.

"We want to teach our kids how to give back to their community," said Alexis Means.

The Judson Center, at 4410 West 13 Mile in Royal Oak, is a non-profit human service agency that helps children and adults with disabilities and families in crisis. Since opening in 1924, the center has grown to serve more than 2,000 children, adults and families daily in

the school and St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church brought a wrapped gift to the special child or adult can call (248) 837-2027 to receive a name and a wish from a child or adult in the center's care. For more information, visit judsoncenter.org.

Children and families from Wayne, Macomb, Oakland and Shawssee counties. People wanting to adopt a special child or adult can call (248) 837-2027 to receive a name and a wish from a child or adult in the center's care. For more information, visit judsoncenter.org.



Making a difference

Grosse Pointe high schoolers joined an estimated 250 volunteers to plant trees on behalf of Greening of Detroit. Students worked on a cold and wet Saturday, Oct. 8, to beautify the North Rosedale neighborhood. The goal of Greening of Detroit charity, founded in 1989, is to improve the quality of life in Detroit through reforestation of its neighborhoods, boulevards and parks. Volunteers at Greening have planted a total of 40,000 trees. Once known as "The City of Trees" and "The Paris of the Midwest," Detroit has lost more than 500,000 American elm trees to Dutch elm disease and thousands of ash trees to emerald ash borer. The North Rosedale community has lost about 200 diseased ash. Helping Pointe students plant trees was Mitch Albom. The sportswriter and best-selling author stopped by during a break in covering the World Series. Shown from left are members of the class of '08 Kelsey Stanton, Elisha Bojanic, Nick Ryder, Olivia Franklin, Michelle Marats, Natalie Rhodes, Christian Gouin-Davis (09) and Albom. Memberships in Greening of Detroit are available beginning at \$25. To learn more, visit greeningofdetroit.com.

Staff cuts are part of tight budget

(ton) essentially called for a 5 percent reduction in non-teaching staff.

Planning will proceed with the assumption that district expenditures are going to exceed revenues by a "significant margin," according to the resolution.

3) Reduce other costs by about \$1 million.

4) Settle union contracts within the district's means.

5) Seek cost savings through-out the budget, including a review of teacher staffing levels.

Board treasurer Fred Minum characterized the resolution as a \$4 million to \$5 million "read map of savings for the district."

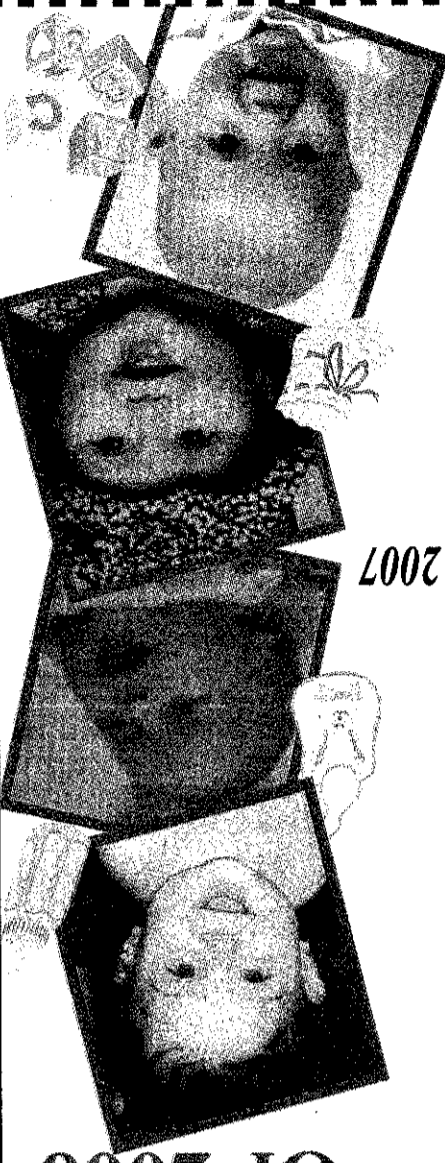
Walsh said parameters are intended to "establish a greater degree of order and expectations and focus at the outset of the budget development process in order to more methodically meeting objectives of the board."

A preliminary budget is expected for review in March, Walsh said.

Early next year state officials may reduce per-pupil foundation grants. If so, district trustees may have to modify their budget goals.

NEW ARRIVALS OF 2006

Proud Parents, Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles... Introduce Your New Baby Born in 2006 in The Grosse Pointe News. To Be Published, February 8, 2007



We will publish your full color photo and text for \$20.00. Deadline is Friday January 19th. Call 313.343.5586 for details or mail us the completed form below. Feel free to E-mail us your photo in J-Peg Format to sschuman@grossepointenews.com

Grosse Pointe News
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Attention: Sally Schuman

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Weight & Length _____
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Janitors face clean sweep

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Contractors are scouring the district to see what it will take to sweep custodians out the door.

If wages are the determining factor, bids must average less than \$34.65 per hour.

Grosse Pointe school board members want to know if it would be cheaper for competitive contractors to replace staff custodians, some of whom have been on board 30 years.

"The average hourly rate for our custodial maintenance workers is \$23.72 an hour," said Trustee Ahmed Ismail. "For every dollar we spend on maintenance and custodial work, we spend 46 cents on accompanying benefits, which is a staggering number. That \$23.72 turns into \$34.65 an hour."

Contractors have been mak-

ing inroads to outsourcing Pointe school personnel. Last year contractors replaced cafeteria employees. Now, three companies are competing to take over custodial jobs.

"They've done walk-throughs in the buildings and will be getting proposals to us by January 3," said Chris Fenton, assistant superintendent of business affairs.

The idea of replacing non-instructional staff with outside contractors has "generated significant public interest," said board President Brendan Walsh. "I hope people are patient and understand (that) decisions we make on this and any other issues aren't strictly financial. All elements will be taken under consideration, but we flat-out need options."

Hardly a school board meeting has gone by this year without trustees pointing out budget pressures.

"Everybody expects a re-

duced amount of funding from the state or at least a near-frozen amount of funding from the state next year," said Fred Minturn, board treasurer. "We have economic challenges in the range of \$4 million to \$5 million next year."

Districts throughout the state are replacing employees with outside vendors.

More than one-third of Michigan schools systems have contracted food, janitorial or busing services, according to a December 2005 Michigan Education Report from the Mackinac Center for Public Policy.

"Of those districts that contracted out, 80 percent reported savings resulting from privatization," the report said. "Only eight districts said the contract did not save them any money."

Last week, Pointe trustees resolved to cut non-teacher

personnel by 5 percent or whatever it takes to save "about" \$1 million in the 2007-08 budget.

"That's nothing anybody relishes doing, but it is coming to grips with the reality of how the state of Michigan funds public schools in the midst of a sagging economy," Walsh said. "We have to be clinical in our approach to budgeting."

Non-personnel cost-saving options appear to be dwindling.

"It's difficult to discuss pride in a process that will end with decisions that aren't going to be pleasant for some people," he said. "We can guarantee it."

Walsh wants to keep options open and evaluate alternatives before cutting staff.

"We need to make sure that whatever other opportunity isn't less desirable than this one," he said. "This whole process is going to be about tradeoffs."



Needs two front teeth

Sydney Murray, left, in first grade at Our Lady Star of the Sea School, says she'll ask Santa for her two front teeth for Christmas. The Grosse Pointe Shores resident and her "big sister," Micaela Liddane, an eighth-grader from Grosse Pointe Woods, joined other Star eighth and first grade students making gingerbread houses.

Kindergarten tuition to go up

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Tuition for the district's all-day kindergarten is sure to go up next fall. The question is by how much.

A proposal to raise rates by at least \$100 to \$500 was put aside this week by members of the Grosse Pointe school board. If the proposal had been enacted, tuition would have risen to at least \$3,200 from the current level of \$3,100.

Because the proposal was based on variables that won't be known until the start of the next school year, tuition could have jumped to \$3,600.

Chris Fenton, assistant superintendent of business affairs, said the present rate was established last year based on enrollment of 90 students.

Facing higher operating costs this year and maneuvering to stave off a deficit, Fenton revised the formula. He introduced a graduated system in which per-pupil tuition would go down as enrollment went up.

"This is the first time we've done a tiered system," he said.

Board members sent back the proposal, saying a formula based on enrollment contained

too many uncertainties.

Tom Harwood, director of special education, successfully suggested instituting a flat tuition with the possibility of a refund next fall when enrollment is set. The fee and refund schedules are expected to be determined by the board of education.

The district's four kindergarten classes typically average about 21 students. Enrollment this year is 79, Fenton said.

He proposed a minimum tuition of \$3,200 if enrollment ranged from 86 to 90 students. If enrollment ranged from 81 to 85, tuition could have cost \$3,400. Proposed rates topped out at \$3,500 for enrollment of 76 to 80 students.

"Tuition fees are used to pay the costs of classroom salaries and benefits, and extra supplies for the additional half-day the children are in school," said Fenton. "This does not include any indirect costs such as heat (and) lights."

Despite cost worries, he said kindergarten isn't intended as a profit center.

Fenton said a tuition increase would keep the program out of the red, "but it won't help us significantly in the black."

Bonds refinanced

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

That jingling sound coming from school headquarters isn't Santa Claus. It's \$1.8 million heading back to district taxpayers.

Grosse Pointe school officials will save the money by refinancing the 2002, \$63 million bond issue.

A unanimous school board set the process in motion.

"Refinancing outstanding bonds could result in approximate savings of \$1.8 million or 4 percent of the value of bonds refunded," said Chris Fenton, assistant superintendent of business affairs. "It's pretty attractive."

"It reduces taxes by 1.8

mills," Fenton said.

His analysis assumes new bonds would be issued at par value rather than at a premium.

To capitalize on market conditions, board members this week authorized administrators to appoint a senior managing underwriter to buy the bonds and negotiate a purchase agreement.

Fenton expects interest rates on \$61 million worth of 25-year-bonds to drop to 4.27 percent for 20 years compared with the present rate of 4.79 percent for 25 years.

Proceeds from the transaction will pay expenses. The balance is to be put in escrow or invested in obligations guaranteed unconditionally by the federal government.

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

City of Grosse Pointe

Really mad

Police arrested a 34-year-old Clinton Township man after a police chase that led officers at high speeds down Mack at 2 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 14.

Police first observed the vehicle at Mack near Fisher driving at speeds nearing 70 mph. Police gave chase on Mack and observed the suspect running red lights at Warren, Moross and Vernier. Police were able to finally stop the vehicle near Vernier when it took off again. It finally was brought to a stop after turning into an alley off Allard, where it struck a wall.

The suspect was ordered out of the vehicle, and had to be forcibly taken to the pavement after refusing to comply with police demands. Police also observed a strong odor of intoxicants coming from the suspect's facial area. When asked at the scene why he acted the way he did, the suspect admitted that he was drunk and very upset.

Because of the circumstances, the suspect was arrested and taken to the police station for standard sobriety tests, which he failed. The suspect then refused to take a breath test.

He was arrested for reckless driving and failure to take a breath test.

Stick up

Two Detroit youths, a 16-year-old and 17-year-old, were arrested for a holdup at Kercheval and Lakeland at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11.

Police said the victims reported that the two youths had stopped them and demanded a cell phone and an iPod music player. The suspects then fled

on bikes toward Detroit on University until they were located by police near Mack. The suspects then jumped off their bikes and took off on foot.

One suspect was followed to a house in the 3000 block of Neff, which he entered. He was found hiding in the back room where he was arrested. A search revealed the two stolen items, a plastic firearm and a screwdriver.

The other suspect was arrested after he was found hiding behind a home in the 3000 block of Woodhall in Detroit.

— John Lundberg

Grosse Pointe Farms

Stolen SUV found

Police arrested a 15-year-old Detroit youth and recovered a stolen Cadillac Escalade parked in the back of a home in the 5000 block of Holcomb in Detroit after it was reported stolen from a gas station on Mack and Moross at 5:50 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 16.

Police said the victim had left the vehicle running when he went into the gas station for a cup of coffee. The vehicle was tracked by OnStar and was found in the rear of the abandoned house. The youth was arrested and transported to the police station.

Don't drive

Police detained a 47-year-old Warren man following a traffic stop at Moross and Chalfonte at 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15.

Police stopped the vehicle for driving with a broken headlight and a LEIN check revealed the man was driving on a suspended license.

The man was advised not to operate a motor vehicle and was released at the scene.

Buckle up

An 18-year-old Detroit man was arrested after a traffic stop at Mack and Radnor at 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14.

Police stopped the vehicle after observing the driver operating without a seat belt. He was arrested after a LEIN check revealed he was wanted on a warrant out of Detroit. He was also cited for driving with an improper license plate and having no proof of insurance.

A passenger in the vehicle was also cited for not wearing a seat belt seat belt and was released at the scene.

— John Lundberg

Grosse Pointe Park

Larceny

On Sunday, Dec. 17, between 12:15 and 8:45 a.m., an unknown person stole four chrome wheel rims from a 2007 Cadillac CRV parked in the driveway of a home in the 800 block of Barrington.

Stolen item

Between Friday, Dec. 15, and Sunday, Dec. 17, a Toro CCR 2450 GTS snow blower was stolen from the unlocked garage of a home in the 500 block of Barrington.

Voyager stolen

Between Thursday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 17, a 1998 Plymouth Voyager was stolen from the street in front of a home in the 1200 block of Bishop.

The vehicle was locked.

Busted

On Dec. 17, at 1:58 p.m., police officers responded to a report of two suspects walking

through the rear yards of several homes in the Vernor/Bedford area.

The two were located and found to be in possession of burglary tools. A Detroit juvenile was detained and a 17-year-old Detroit man was arrested.

Arrested

On Friday, Dec. 15, at 1:31 p.m., Grosse Pointe Park detectives and U.S. postal inspectors executed a search warrant of a home in the 16000 block of Mack and recovered a package containing 13 pounds of suspected marijuana.

A 37-year-old Shelby Township man was arrested.

— Bob St. John

Grosse Pointe Shores

Squad car struck

A Grosse Pointe Shores squad car was struck in the rear bumper while stopped in the median at Woodland and Lakeshore at 10:45 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16.

Police said the driver was pulled over and admitted she wasn't paying attention when she hit the squad car. The driver was issued a citation in violation of the graduated driver license restriction level I for not having a passenger over 21 years of age. The passenger in the car was 20 years old.

Both vehicles were photographed at the station, and the driver was released after being issued the citation.

Blinded by the light

Police issued an ordinance violation for excessive lighting to homeowners on Oxford after sunset on Friday, Dec. 15. Police were alerted to the vi-

olation at 10:15 a.m. that day by neighbors on Renaud who claimed the lights in the back yard of the home were too bright. Police advised the complainants that they would return that night to observe the lights.

The homeowners told police they would dim the lights and police issued them the citation.

Warrant stop

Police detained a 48-year-old Ferndale woman following a traffic stop for speeding at Lakeshore and Renaud at 10:40 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14.

A LEIN check revealed the woman was wanted on several misdemeanor warrants. She was also cited for driving without the vehicle's registration.

The woman was advised of the warrants and released at the scene.

Quite a display

Police arrested a 28-year-old Royal Oak man after a traffic stop on Lakeshore near Sunnydale at 12:40 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13.

Police stopped the vehicle after it was observed driving erratically. When asked the reason, the suspect explained that he and the passenger were looking at Christmas light displays.

A LEIN check revealed that the man was driving on a suspended license. He was transported to the police station, where he posted bond and was released. The vehicle was released to the licensed passenger in the car.

— John Lundberg

Grosse Pointe Woods

Loud party

On Sunday, Dec. 17, at 12:15 a.m., police officers responded to a loud party at a home in the 1700 block of Broadstone.

When the officers arrived,

they noticed alcohol was being served. After investigating the scene, it was noted that more than two dozen individuals were under 21 and were issued citations for minor in possession of alcohol by consumption.

The party host, a 21-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods man, might be issued further citations for hosting an open house party.

Eluding police

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 3:08 a.m., a 19-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods man was found trying to conceal himself from a police officer who walked up to his black 1989 Ford Mustang parked on the shoulder of VanAntwerp.

When the police officer approached the car, the driver got up, starting the vehicle and sped away.

The officer gave chase, but the car was able to elude the officer long enough for the driver to vacate the vehicle, which was seen in a driveway of a home in the 2000 block of VanAntwerp.

The officer went to the driver's home and the driver's father confirmed the man in the car was his son.

The officer saw the man run out a back door but he could not be found. The police officer asked the father to give the Woods public safety department a call when his son returned home.

Stolen truck

On Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 6:45 p.m., a 53-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods man living in the 21400 block of Morningside reported his red 2005 Dodge Dakota was stolen from his garage. The man told police he started his truck and ran into the house to get something he forgot.

When he returned in less than one minute, the Dakota was gone.

— Bob St. John

City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

SUMMARY OF MINUTES DECEMBER 11, 2006

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Farquhar; Councilmembers Roby, Joseph, Davis III, Theros, Leonard and Waldmeir.

Those Absent Were: None.

Also Present: Messrs. Burgess, City Attorney; Reeside, City Manager; Tepper, Assistant City Manager; Modzinski, City Controller; Jensen, Director Public Safety.

Mayor Farquhar Presided at the Meeting.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 13, 2006, were approved as submitted.

The Council, acting as a Zoning Board of Appeals, approved the Minutes of the Public Hearings held on August 14, 2006 and September 11, 2006; granted the request for variance for 35 Beverly Road.

The Council accepted the Audit for Fiscal Year June 30, 2006, and ordered it placed on file.

The Council approved the S-2 Grant Application Sewer Survey Grant, as submitted.

The Council approved the Community Development Block Grant Annual Allocation 2007 Programming & 2006 Re-Programming Request, as submitted.

The Council approved the following items from the Consent Agenda:

Proposed Schedule of Council Meetings for Calendar Year 2007, as follows:

- January 8
- January 22*
- February 5
- March 5
- March 19*
- April 2
- April 16*
- May 7
- May 21*
- June 4
- June 18*
- July 9
- August 13
- September 10
- October 1
- October 22*
- November 12
- December 10

* Indicates Work Session or additional Council Meeting, as needed, scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m.

- Resolution to hold Charitable Event's Grosse Pointe Gators Swim Club Inc.
- Approve banners at Grosse Pointe South High School
- Scheduled Public Hearing date for Monday, January 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. to consider the proposed Amendment to Retirement Systems Ordinance.
- Scheduled Public Hearing date for Monday, January 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. to consider the proposed changes to Sewer Ordinance.

The Council approved the 2007 Harbor Rules & Regulations Policy.

The Council received the Public Safety Report for October 2006 and ordered it placed on file.

Upon proper motion made, supported and carried, the Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2007 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 90 KERBY ROAD, GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MICHIGAN 48236. THE MEETING IS PUBLIC, INTERESTED PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITY ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. YOU MAY ALSO VIEW THE AGENDA AND MINUTES ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE: www.ci.grosse-pointe-farms.mi.us/

James C. Farquhar,
Mayor
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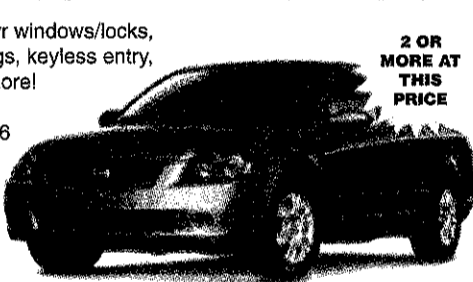
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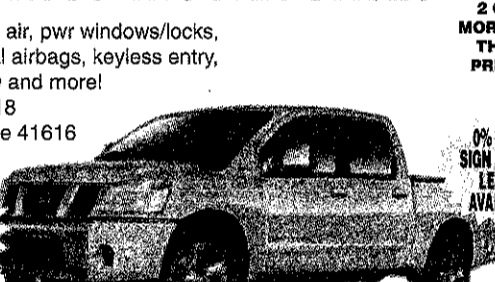
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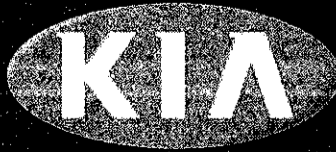


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TEST DRIVE By Greg Zyla

The ongoing saga of young Joe



With holiday parties upon us, and festive travel at its peak, it's time for our yearly column about the dangers of drinking and driving. It's the story of young Joe, a fun loving 21-year-old who is full of life, has lots of friends and is a good person.

Joe could be your neighbor, schoolmate, fellow worker, brother or even your father or husband. He's been having a great time at a holiday party, joining in on all the fun. He's overdone the eating and drinking, something many of us do each year.

Now it's 2 a.m., and time to go home. Joe knows he's had one too many alcoholic beverages, but it doesn't stop him from driving. Thank goodness he's alone.

Joe isn't aware that on this night, he'll become one of the 13,000 drivers between the ages of 16 and 21 who die in car accidents each year. Most (45 percent) die from calamities involving speeding, while 35 percent die from accidents involving other violations. The other 20 percent are killed in mishaps that involve turn signal violations or right of way confrontations.

Joe will join the statistic that involves alcohol related deaths, still well over 17,000 per annum. Overall, he joins the average of 43,000 people of

all ages who will die in car wrecks every year. That's nearly 118 deaths per day, and it's been this way for the last 13 years.

Of course, Joe's age group is more than twice as likely to be involved in a fatal crash. Of 100,000 fatal accidents studied by the U.S. Department of Commerce, a full 64 percent were under 25 years old, while 31 percent involved drivers over 25 years of age. As for violations, the "CA Driver Fact Book" reports that of all teen traffic violations, 51 percent involve speeding, while another 22 percent involve turn signal errors.

Back to Joe. He's driving 60 mph, and approaching a curve in the highway that should be taken at 35 mph. His reactions are slow, and he misses the curve by quite a bit. Before he even knows what is happening, his car is off the road and headed directly toward a huge tree.

There is no correcting. Joe's car hits the tree with a resounding crunch.

At 1/10th of a second, the car's front bumper and grill-work collapse.

At 2/10ths of a second, the hood crumbles, rises, and smashes into the windshield. The grillwork now disintegrates.

At 3/10ths of a second, Joe is sprung upright from his seat. His legs are immediately broken, and his knees crash against the dashboard. The steering wheel bends under his grip.

At 4/10ths of a second, the front of the car is completely destroyed and now dead still. However, the rear end of the

car is still traveling at 55 mph, and the 1,000 pound engine and accessories are crunched into the tree.

At 5/10ths of a second, the impact rips Joe's shoes clean off his feet. The chassis bends in the middle, and Joe's head is slammed into the windshield. The car's rear-end begins its downward fall as its spinning wheels churn into the ground.

At 6/10ths of a second, the entire body of the car is twisted out of shape. The front seat continues to ram forward.

At 7/10ths of a second, Joe's chest is pinned against the steering wheel shaft. His internal organs crash against his rib cage.

At 8/10ths of a second, Joe is dead. He's now a statistic.

Remember, it's not just young drivers like Joe who crash. Many adults who are experienced drivers will also become statistics. They, too, will make mistakes behind the wheel, many alcohol related. They'll come from every walk of life, from laborer to politician.

Plan your travel carefully this season. Try not to be in a hurry and if the roads turn nasty, stop and stay at a motel. If necessary, pull off at a roadside rest area or stop and have a coffee at a restaurant. Don't just pull off on the side of a road — it's dangerous there. If you are late and miss the big "gathering," so be it. Keep in mind that more deaths per mile traveled will occur during the holiday season.

Finally, if you drink, don't drive, and have a safe holiday season.

Greg Zyla is a syndicated automotive columnist.



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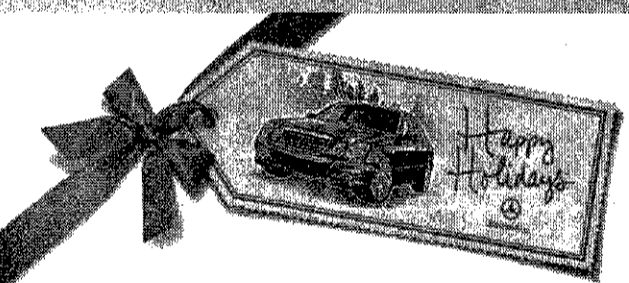
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One muscle car requirement is looking hot with the hood open or closed. Here, the 2007 Shelby GT500 sets new standards as the most powerful Mustang ever made — 500 horsepower.

2007 Ford Shelby GT 500

By Dan Schulte
Special Writer

The fact that more than 2 million people from North America and beyond partake in the Woodward Dream Cruise every year makes a powerful statement about the sustained popularity of classic American cars, especially the muscle cars of the '60s and '70s.

More than a few enthusiasts have longed for the day when manufacturers would bring back the street machines of yesteryear in something close to their original form.

Two years ago, Ford Motor Co. responded with the 2005 Mustang GT, a 21st century reflection of the thoroughbred design, impressive performance and commanding sound of the original '60s Mustang Fastback.

For many, it meant a second chance to revel in the muscle car styling of the '60s while enjoying a modern drivetrain and chassis that could be readily employed for everyday use. A significantly improved likeness of the original Fastback, the Mustang GT is a favorite among new and old car buffs alike.

Now comes the new 2007 Ford Shelby GT500.

Even those who grew up in a world of bored and stroked, multi-carbureted, custom-built street rods will be wowed by the 2007 Ford Shelby GT500's performance.

The Shelby GT500 was developed by Ford's SVT Team with input from racing legend Carroll Shelby. The car's 5.4-liter, 500-horsepower V8 engine coupled with a manual 6-speed transmission delivers the kind of adrenaline-pumping acceleration that is rarely found in today's new-car showrooms. Certainly nothing in the Shelby GT500's \$44,000 price range comes close, with most worthy competitors coming in at two to three times the price.

The GT500 isn't simply a fast street machine, it's absolutely and voraciously aggressive, able to take skeptics to school at a moment's notice. When the lesson's over, the race proven Brembo brake system brings things to a halt in a hurry with four-piston calipers and big 14-inch vented rotors up front, and dual-piston calipers with 11.8-inch vented rotors in back.

The GT500's blazing acceleration and right-now stopping power interface the road via 255/45ZR18 front, and 285/40ZR18 Goodyear F1 supercar tires. While ample for stopping and cornering, even larger, stickier rear rubber would help make the most of this car's 480 foot-pounds of torque.

When it comes to curves, the Shelby GT500, with its 55/45 front/rear axle weight ratio may not corner as fluidly as a 50/50 mid-engine supercar, but the added weight up front



2007 Ford Shelby GT500 Blue Coup

seems more a concern in concept than reality. The addition of performance steering components specific to the Shelby GT500 makes a perceptible contribution to its predictable handling characteristics. After pushing traction to the limits on a wet skid pad, recovery was readily gained, the feedback validating driver confidence in this vehicle's sure-footed agility.

In spite of the Shelby GT500's gorilla performance attributes, it's a "sleeper" at idle, purring almost as quietly as grandma's grocery getter. Keep in mind, the sleeper designation applies more to the GT500 convertible than the coupe. With its attention-getting twin LeMans racing stripes running from bumper to bumper, the coupe is more than a little conspicuous. The convertible, on the other hand, comes sans LeMans stripes. If it weren't for the little cobra emblem and the GT 500 decal down on the convertible's rocker, you wouldn't know what you were up against until it was a done deal.

In the '60s, cars that delivered anywhere near this kind of performance idled like a cement mixer. Thanks to today's refined automotive technology, the Shelby GT500 stands by smoothly and quietly at low RPM until the driver decides to mash the gas pedal into the carpet. Then the roots-type supercharger makes its sleeping giant presence known, pumping huge amounts of inter-

cooled air into the combustion chambers via the 4-valve aluminum Ford GT heads. Instantly the Shelby GT500 is catapulted into highway hyperspace with an exhaust note that is performance harmony.

The GT500 goes from zero to 60 in just over four seconds. Track tests show the car punching down the quarter mile in 12.8 seconds. But there are variations. Videos on youtube show the GT500 covering the quarter mile in the mid-10s.

Inside, the controls and analog gauges are clean and well placed. The AM/FM/MP3 Shaker stereo system complements the car nicely, in functionality, fidelity and power. The seats are surprisingly comfortable with room for four as long as the rear seat passengers don't require much space.

Only a few recommended changes: Add a telescopic steering wheel, reposition the spoiler slightly for better rear vision and shorten the throw on the headlamp dimmer switch. Oh, and add a radar cloaking device, please.

If you have a Shelby GT500 on order, consider yourself fortunate. Demand clearly exceeds supply. Virtually all 10,000 of the '07 models are spoken for. If you're on the list, expect lots of attention. The Shelby GT500 was not designed for people whose primary intent is to remain inconspicuous. This driver was getting stares and thumbs up from everyone between the

ages of 8 and 80.

All things considered, the Ford Shelby GT500 is a definitive testament to what Detroit is capable of producing — the fastest production Mustang ever, and certainly the most

bang for the buck in the performance car arena.

At a time when much of the news emerging from our domestic automotive industry is less than inspiring, the launch of a vehicle as dynamic and ex-

citing as the Ford Shelby GT500 is nothing short of invigorating.


Dan Schulte is a Detroit area writer and producer who can be reached at SchulteD@umich.edu.

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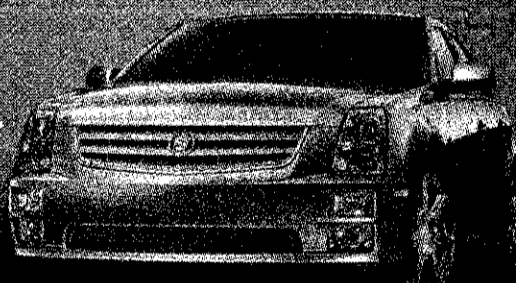
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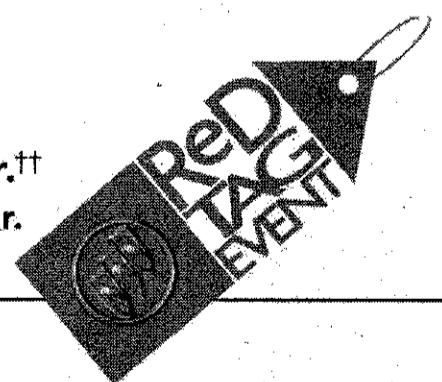


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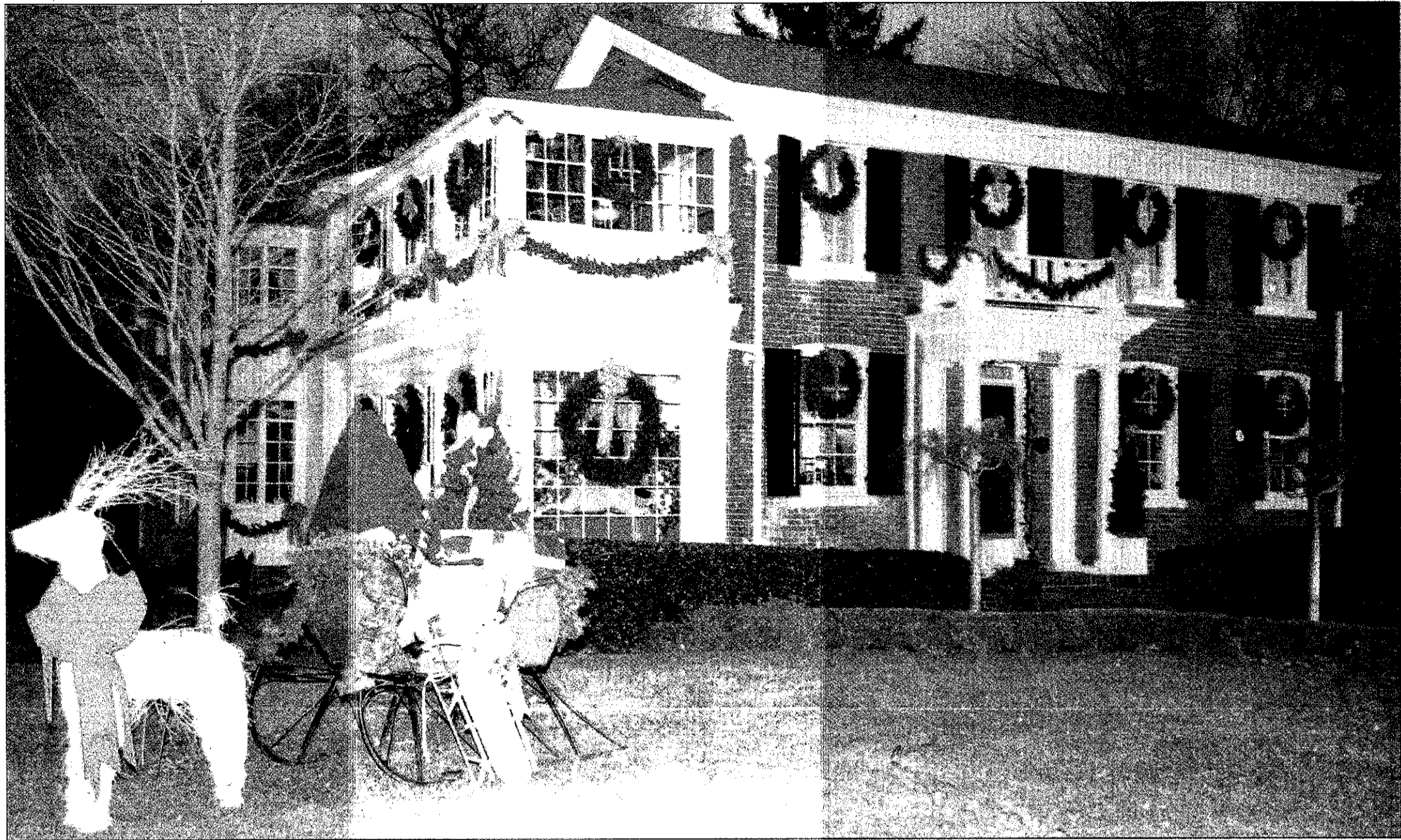
*Payments are for a 2007 Buick LaCrosse CX Special Edition with Chrome Enhancement Package and an MSRP of \$23,360, 27 monthly payments total \$5,370; a 2007 Buick Rendezvous CX with an MSRP of \$25,795, 27 monthly payments total \$4,813 and a 2007 Buick Lucerne CX with an MSRP of \$26,265, 27 monthly payments total \$6,990. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. GMAC must approve lease. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Residency restrictions apply. Must show proof of current GMAC lease on Rendezvous. Take delivery by 1/2/07.

**2007 models. Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details.

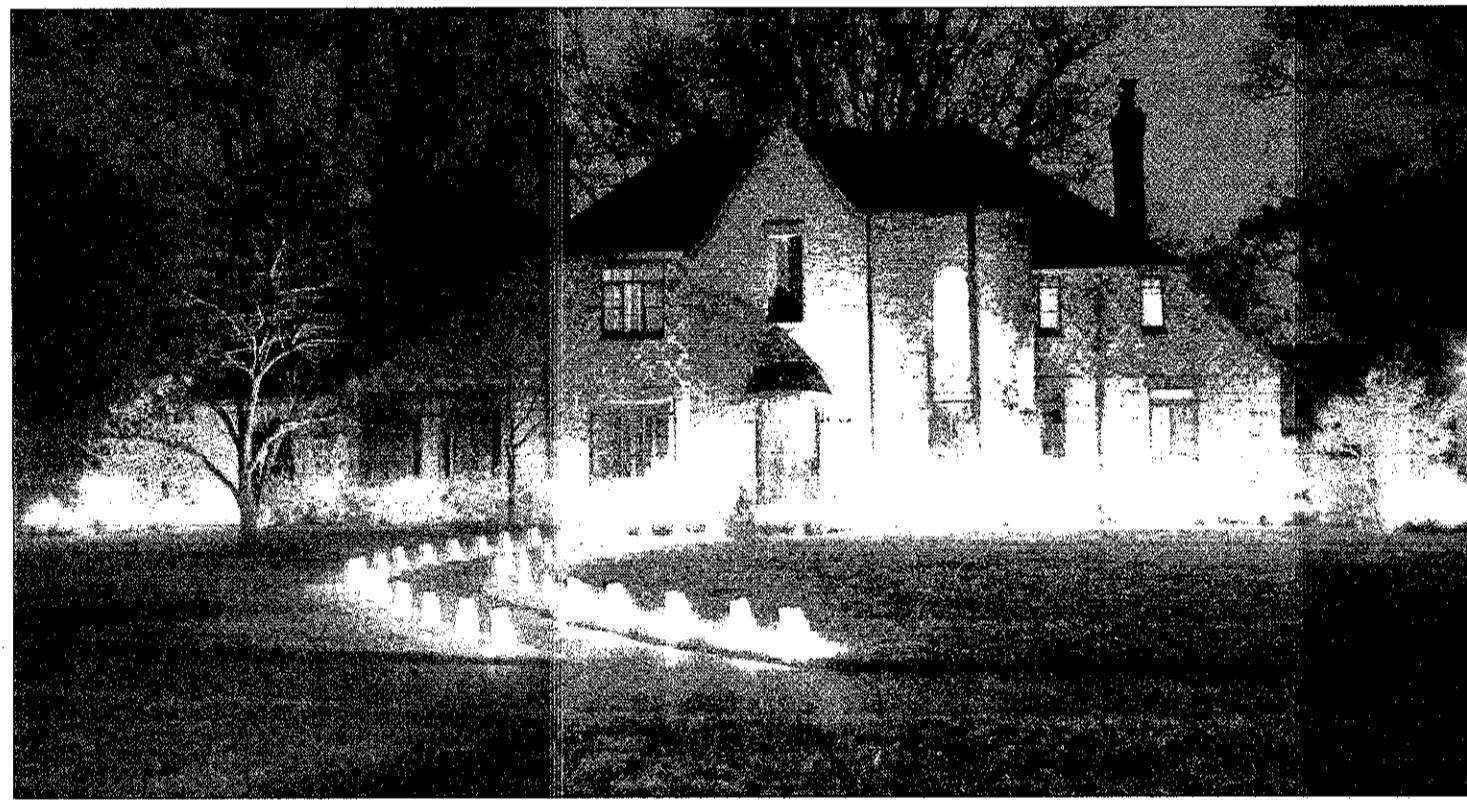
† Turn-by-Turn not available in certain markets. Call 1-888-466-7827 for system limitations and details.

†† Tax, title and license are extra. Take delivery by 1/2/07. See dealer for details.

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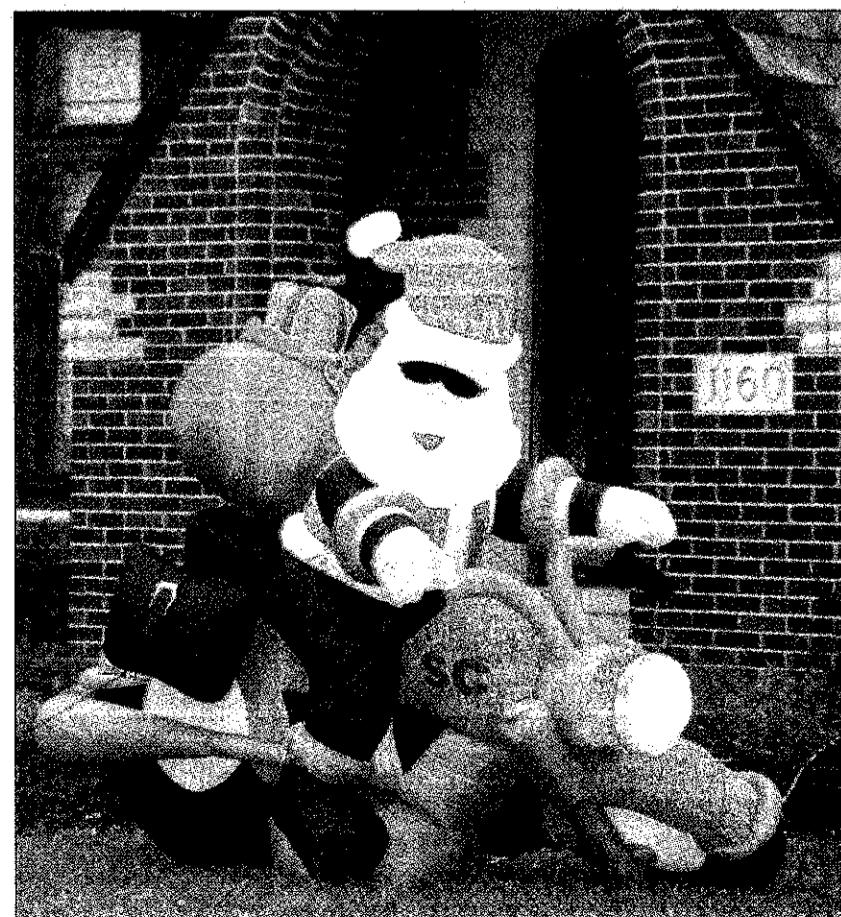
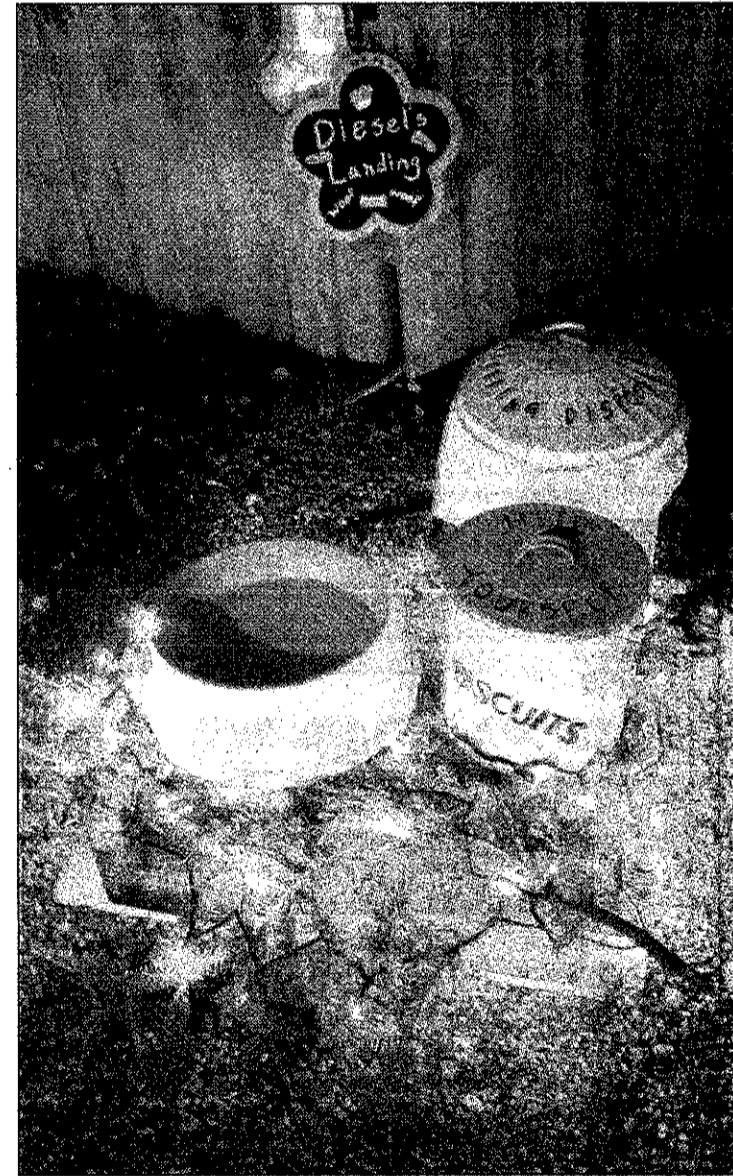


PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Holidays light up the Pointes

ABOVE: The Wardwell House "aglow." LEFT AND BELOW LEFT: Homes on Balfour warm up the night. BELOW: "Diesel's Landing," a memorial in the City. BOTTOM LEFT: Santa Claus reading at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House. BOTTOM RIGHT: Santa on bike in Berkshire.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS!

INTRODUCING THE ALL NEW 2007 VOLVO S80

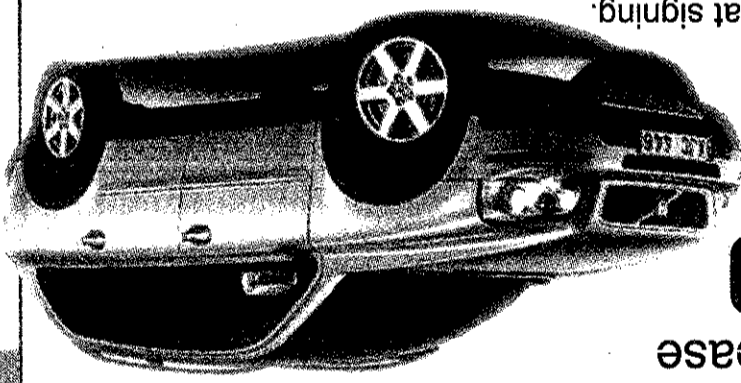


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2007 VOLVO XC90 FWD

24 month lease
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per month

Premium
Climate Package
Plus Tax, Title & Plate



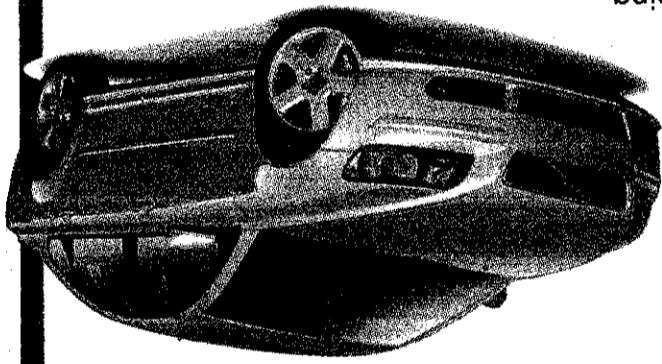
STK# GV245

With \$1,204 due at signing.

Plus Tax, Title & Plate

24 month lease
\$267
per month

2007 VOLVO S40 2.4!m



STK# GV242

*All prices based on 24 month A-plan lease with approved credit and Volvo Loyalty. Based on 10,500 miles per year. Tax, title and plate extra. Offers expire December 31, 2006.

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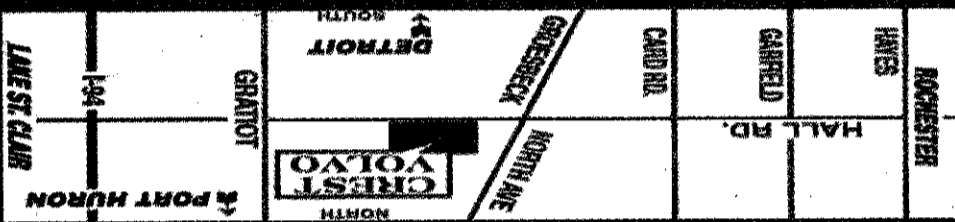
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Mon & Thurs 8:30-9:00

Tues, Wed, Fri 8:30-6:00 • Sat 10-4

SERVICE HOURS: Mon & Thurs 7:30-7

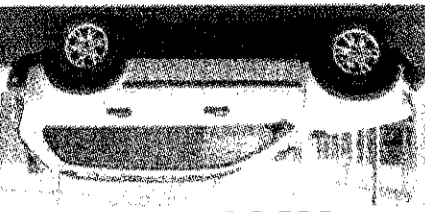
Tue, Wed, Fri 7:30-6 • Sat 8-12



CREST VOLVO PRE-OWNED VOLVOS

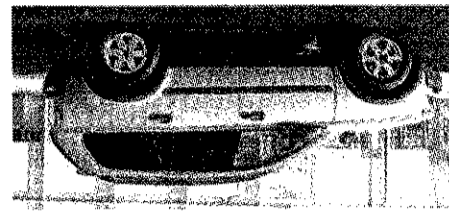
• Six year/100,000 mile Limited Warranty • From original in-service date • 130 Point Safety Inspection • 24-hour Roadside Assistance

06 VOLVO XC90 AWD



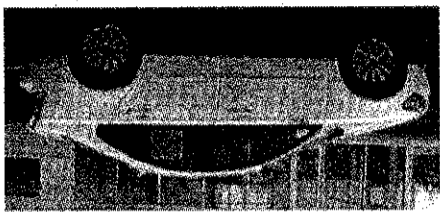
CERTIFIED
PRE-OWNED VOLVO
18,876 Miles
Silver w/ Graphite, Leather Interior
WAS \$36,700
SALE PRICE \$31,700
STK# S322

04 VOLVO XC90 T6 AWD



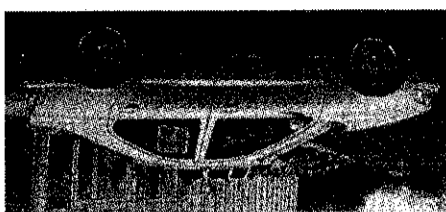
CERTIFIED
PRE-OWNED VOLVO
3rd Row Seating and more!
STK# S325
SALE PRICE \$28,700

05 VOLVO S40



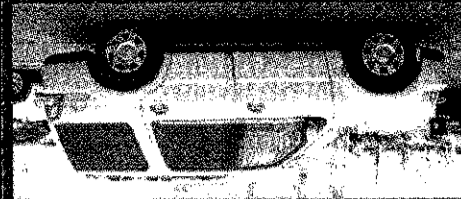
CERTIFIED
PRE-OWNED VOLVO
3 To Choose From
Miles, colors & equip. may vary.
WAS \$24,900
SALE PRICE \$19,700
STK# S280, S288, S277

05 VOLVO S60 R



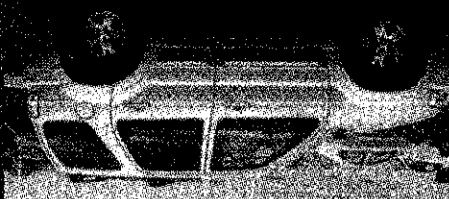
CERTIFIED
PRE-OWNED VOLVO
18,405 Miles
Loaded!
WAS \$34,800
SALE PRICE \$31,900
STK# S288

05 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR



32,743 Miles
Entertainment System & much more!
WAS \$32,700
SALE PRICE \$29,900
STK# S309

03 FORD ESCAPE



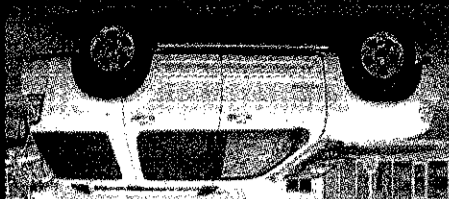
31,218 Miles
Loaded!
WAS \$15,950
SALE PRICE \$12,900
STK# S255

02 CHRYSLER SEBRING



34,422 Miles
Loaded!
WAS \$14,400
SALE PRICE \$11,700
STK# S212

05 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED



27,121 Miles
Entertainment System & much more!
WAS \$21,800
SALE PRICE \$17,900
STK# S300

**Pricing is based on approved credit and current incentives and subject to change without notice. Tax, title and plates extra. Must take delivery no later than December 28, 2006.

FEATURES

SENIORS

Christmas past

Roles change as one moves through the many stages of life. PAGE 6B

4-5B CHURCHES | 6B SENIORS | 7B HEALTH | 8-9B ENTERTAINMENT

Sometimes things are not what they seem. Get the scoop on **Detroit Institute of Arts** compositions during a special offering between Christmas and the new year.

Artist in full flower

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Rachel Ruysch was prolific, and not just because she bore 10 children.

An artist from the Dutch Golden Age known mainly for painting floral still lifes that boast vivid color and botanical accuracy, Ruysch is remembered for more than 200 progeny in oil on canvas.

"She ramped herself up into high gear from about 1703 to 1708," said George Keyes, head curator of the Detroit Institute of Arts. "It was like she could not make a mistake. Everything she touched was flawless."

The DIA owns one of Ruysch's most noted still lifes. The work, "Flowers in a Glass Vase," dates to 1704 and had been passed through generations of a British family until auctioned at Sotheby's in 1994.

"Flowers" is a favorite of Keyes.

"Our painting is a perfect example of this artist at the greatest moment," he said.

"Detailing in this painting is absolutely astonishing. It's rivetingly beautiful."

Keyes gave museum visitors the scoop on Ruysch as a prelude to Curator's Choice, a series between Christmas and the new year during which curators enter galleries to give free half-hour talks about one of their favorite works.

Talks are scheduled at 11 a.m., 1:30 and 3 p.m., on:

♦ Tuesday, Dec. 26: the associate curator of contemporary art discusses Andy Warhol's "Self Portrait" and how contemporary artists construct identity.

♦ Wednesday, Dec. 27: the curator of modern European Art, decodes disturbing images in "The Nightmare" by Henry Fuseli and a work by Francis Bacon.

♦ Thursday, Dec. 28: the assistant curator of European sculpture and decorative arts looks at porcelain.

♦ Friday, Dec. 29: abstract art is discussed by the assistant curator of African American art.

Visitors can ask at the infor-

mation desk for directions to the proper gallery.

Sometimes a cigar is just a cigar. But in the world of top-notch floral painting, things sometimes aren't what they seem.

"Flowers can symbolize the evanescent, the passage of time, something that attains momentary brilliance, then wilts and ultimately rots and vanishes from the earth," Keyes said.

Ruysch injected to her assortment of fair flowers the rank smell of bugs, representing, with a nod to Shakespeare, that sweetest things turn sourest by their deeds.

Amid 25 types of blossoms piled in Ruysch's mountainous bouquet — a white and red striated tulip, pink cabbage roses and more — creep 16 species of insects.

Such detail hints at things beyond beauty and brotherhood.

"We see another meaning that could exist," Keyes said.

See FLOWERS, page 2B

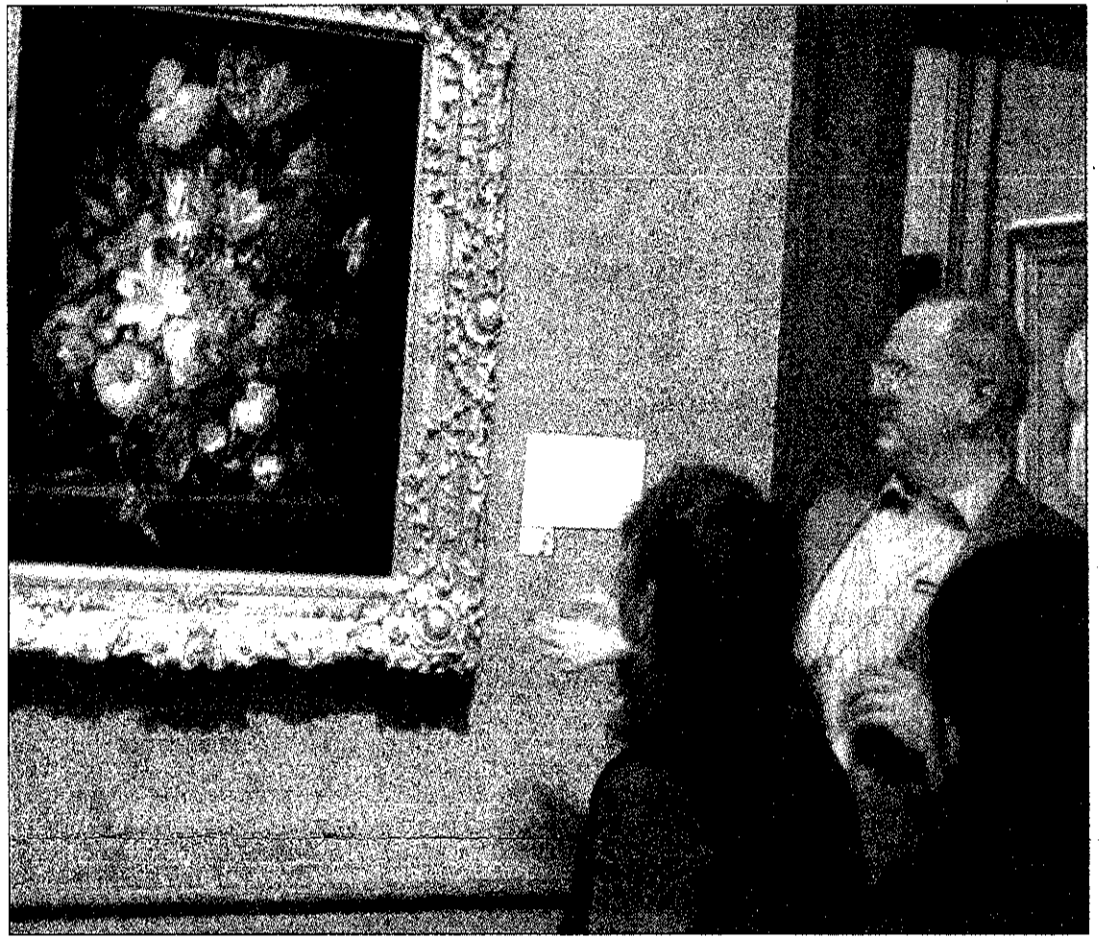


PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG


George Keyes, chief curator of the Detroit Institute of Arts, tells patrons why he likes Rachel Ruysch's "Flowers in a Glass Vase" and what to look for in art.

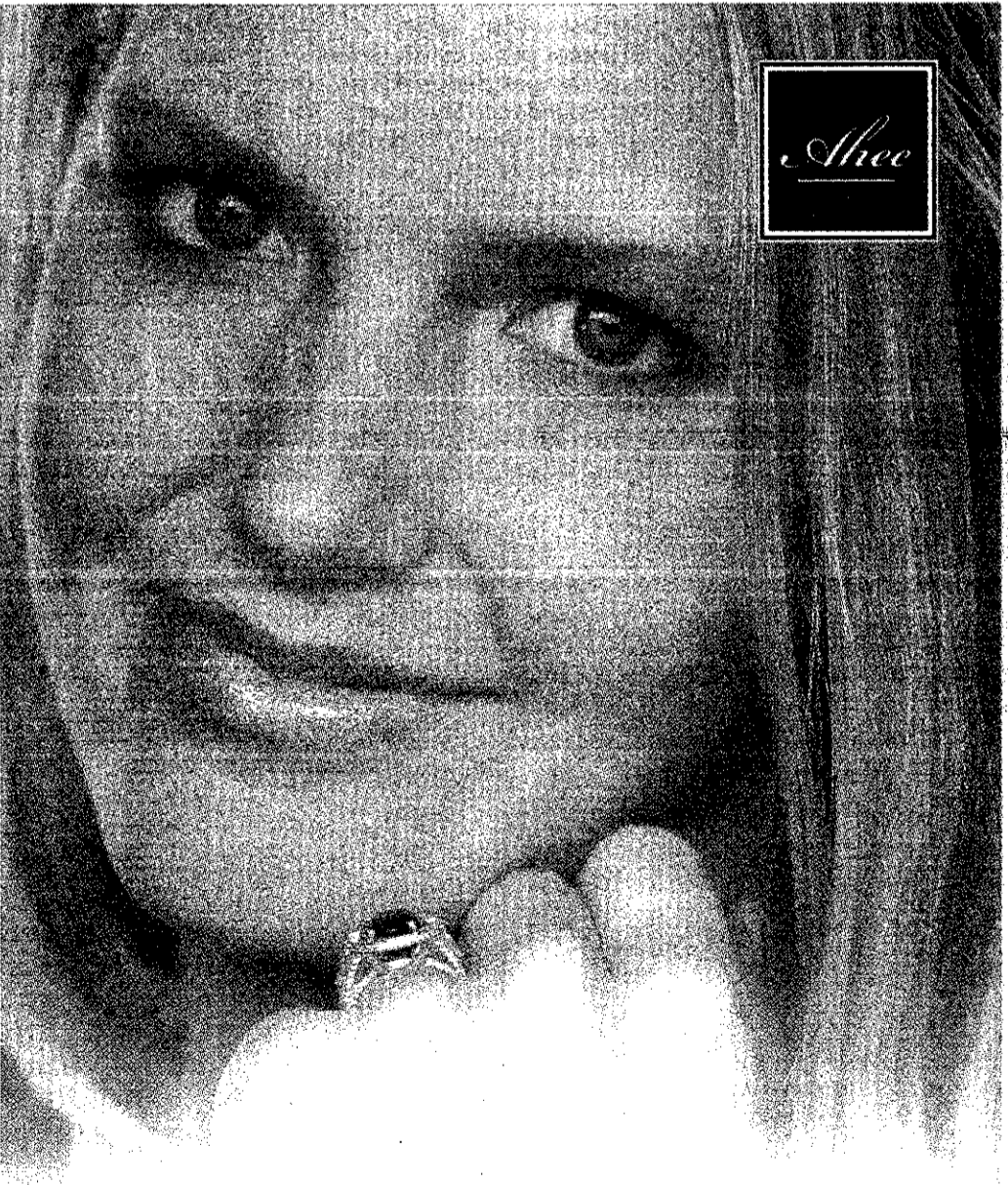


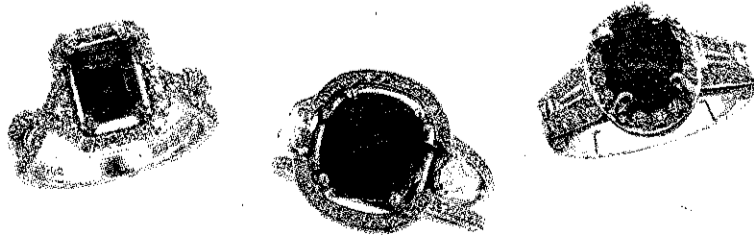
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2B | FEATURES



PHOTOS BY BRAD LINDBERG

At left, "Flowers in a Glass Vase," by Rachel Ruysch. Above, viewers will notice the details, such as, insects and dewdrops in Ruysch's painting of "Flowers in a Glass Vase" after looking deeper into the work at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

FLOWERS:
Art challenges viewers

From page 1B

"Look closely. You'll see grasshoppers, butterflies, moths, ants and flies attacking these flowers at the moment of perfection."

Moralizing pervades art, not just floral arrangements. In a gallery near Ruysch's work, a landscape by American artist

Frederick Church romanticizes the volcanic eruption of Cotopaxi in Ecuador. Completed in 1862, when hope was lost for a quick end to the American Civil War, it's no coincidence that rays of orange sunlight breaking through Cotopaxi's foul mists of ash form the beginnings of a cross and the promise of goodness and peace to come.

Good art challenges viewers to think beyond the subject.

"It makes you question your normative experience of the world around you," Keyes said.

Common themes include the passage of time.

"This goes back to antiquity," Keyes said. "It creates this kind of rhythmic sense of the universe."

Questions about immortality are often touched upon in portraiture.

"Sometimes it's linked to dynastic self-preservation and perpetuation," Keyes said.

Ruysch will be remembered as an ambitious painter with something to prove.

She started her career on the wrong foot. Her gender disqualified her for membership in the Amsterdam artist guild.

"This was an enormous handicap," Keyes said.

On the other hand, she came from a wealthy family in a city made rich by a growing mercantile class. Her father, a professor of anatomy at the University of Amsterdam, also headed the city's botanical gardens.

He preserved nature's anomalies in an embalming fluid of his own invention.

Young Rachel mingled with the sublime and absurd during an eccentric upbringing within reach of exotic flowers and jars of pickled fetuses.

Yet her technical skill and artistic eye conquered obstacles.

She added fine lines to "Flowers in a Glass Vase" using a brush with as few as two or three hairs.

She adjusted the pigmentation of petals to represent light passing through the prism of dewdrops.

"This is an absolutely tour de force painting," Keyes said.

"You feel that it was painted yesterday."

He liked the painting enough

to have it reproduced on the cover of one of his eight books, "Masters of Dutch Painting."

Ruysch wasn't above showing off. She knew what she was doing when detailing the front, back and sides of three cabbage roses placed near the bottom of her bouquet.

"In a very discreet way, this

artist is showing how she can represent an object in space," Keyes said.

"She's sort of rubbing your nose in it in a very discreet way, saying, 'You know, folks, I am a great artist and this is a virtuoso performance.'"

Keyes, added, "You know what? She's absolutely right."

Dutch violinist makes DSO debut

Violinist Janine Jansen debuts with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in the first Classical Series concert of 2007 beginning with an 8 p.m. performance Thursday, Jan. 4, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward, Detroit.

A hit in her native Holland, Jansen will perform Mendelssohn's "Concerto for Violin and Orchestra." The DSO will also be performing Antonin Dvorak's "Symphony No. 8" and Arnold Bax's "Tintagel," led by British con-

ductor Bramwell Tovey.

Jansen's debut performance was in 1997 in Amsterdam and has since performed worldwide.

Additional performances are at 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5, and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 6.

Tickets range from \$15 to \$69 with a limited number of box seats available for \$61 to \$117 and can be purchased at the Max M. Fisher Music Center box office, 3711 Woodward; by calling (313) 576-5111.

pointe counter points by Kathleen Stevenson

ALINOSI Ice Cream
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BREADSMITH
HAND MADE. HEARTH BAKED.
Breadsmith will be open Sunday, December 24th for all your holiday bread needs. Our hours that day will be from 7:00am-3:00pm, and advance orders are strongly recommended. We will be featuring our famous Holiday Stollen and our clever, Christmas Tree-shaped bread. Breadsmith also does gift baskets in a variety of sizes and price ranges. Our regular store hours are Mon.-Sat. 7:00am-6:00pm. 19487 Mack Ave. 313-417-0648. We will be closed Dec. 25, 26, 31 and Jan. 1.

IRISH COFFEE BAR & GRILL EST. 1980
Holiday Shopping?
Take a break and join us for something to eat.
Get the "BEST FRESH GROUND ROUND BURGER" in town. Only \$1.96 Monday - Friday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. Or try our Deluxe Ground Round Burger, choice of salad or cole slaw and french fries only \$4.96... (Dine in only.) Grill open daily till 1:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday 11:00 - 2:00am. Sunday 5:00pm - 2:00am ...at 18666 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Farms, (313)881-5675.

Dot's Brittle Kitchen
Looking for the perfect gift for that special person? A gift that brings back memories is always perfect. Our large variety of brittle candies, from Almond brittle to Walnut brittle and any nut in between, will bring back the best memories and start new ones. Please visit www.BrittleKitchen.com or call (313)701-3491 to get 15% off your next order.

Fresh Start Home Organizing
Do you dread taking your holiday decorations down? Fresh Start will dismantle, organize, and put away your decorations. Call Cynthia Campbell 313-882-7865 or visit www.freshstarhomeorganizing.com Discount given to appointments booked before December 24th.

Joyce's Salon and Spa
HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING IDEAS
Treat someone to a pampered day in a comfy robe. Manicure, pedicure, massage and enjoy lunch served while they relax. Spa Packages - Facials - Hair Styling - Waxing - Body Treatments - Lash Tinting - Cosmetics - Skin Care - Hair Care - Color Analysis - Sauna/Shower - Gift certificates available ...at 17912 Mack, Grosse Pointe. (313) 886-4130.

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Lavish Lashes Professional Eyelash Extensions—is an exciting new product and technique for thicker, longer, and naturally abundant looking eyelashes. Extensions are semi-permanent, lasting 2-3 months. Call Susanna at (313)506-6600 for a consult. **20% Off Lavish Lash Set Now thru January.** Services are performed at Friends Hair & Nails, 313.886.2503. For information log on to Lavishlashes.com. Gift Certificates Available.

To advertise in this column call (313) 882-3500 by 12:00 pm Fridays

GROSSE POINTE PARK

DIO supporters raise \$50,000 for research

About 100 people of all ages walked or ran to benefit the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology in the Sunday, Oct. 29, Detroit Free Press/Flagstar Bank Marathon, "Run for a reason."

Those individuals raised more than \$50,000 through sponsorships and pledges to support the DIO's programs in ophthalmic research and support services for the visually impaired.

The DIO was the only charity associated with vision loss and several of the institute's visually impaired support group members completed the 5K walk and half marathon with the help of a sighted partner.

"This was my first time competing in the event and I had a blast," said Detroit Marie Perchan who is legally blind.

"I got caught up in all of the festivities and it was emotional knowing I was doing something that can help raise money to help the visually impaired."

"Getting the funds to help our research is fantastic," DIO's Philip Hessburg, M.D., said. "We're making progress every day."

Grosse Pointe Woods resident and DIO board member Michael Patten served for the second year as event chairman. Patten announced that DIO will once again be a participating charity in the October 2007 marathon.

DIO is looking to double the number of competitors supporting the institute. Anyone



Participants, from left, Darlene Sulad, Jim Braun, Ellen Chapin and Barb Burnham finished the 5K walk inside Ford Field. The foursome helped the DIO raise more than \$50,000 for research.

interested in walking or running for the DIO can call (313) 824-4710.

The Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology is located on Jefferson in Grosse Pointe

Park.

Hessburg and his staff said they want to thank Art Van Furniture, Don Gooley Cadillac, Henry Ford OptiEyes, Henry Ford

Visual Rehabilitation & Research Center, Kresge Eye Institute, L. Carpenter, Metropolitan Eye Center, Nursing Unlimited, Pfizer Ophthalmics, Sagres

Partners, Sunrise Senior Living, The Private Bank, Big Boy, the Detroit Tigers, the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, Island House on Mackinac Island, Joseph A.

DiMaggio Master Goldsmith and Gemologist, Panera Bread, Shores Theatre and Sweet Lorraines for their sponsorships and donations. — Bob St. John



GPYC board of directors

The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club board of directors recently appointed Grosse Pointe Woods resident J. Dennis Andrus as commodore for 2007. Andrus, who joined the GPYC in 1980, is the club's 74th commodore. Prior to his appointment as commodore, Andrus served on the GPYC board of directors. Outside his duties at the Club, Andrus is the president of Andrus Realty Group in Grosse Pointe Farms. The GPYC also selected officers and the board of directors for 2007. The officers are Vice Commodore David E. Martin, M.D., Rear Commodore James L. Taylor Jr., Secretary Mary Treder-Lang, and Treasurer Robert L. Rader, Jr. The board of directors includes Richard J. Bania, Daniel C. Bracciano, James J. Downes, Robert B. Joslyn, Mark W. Peyser, Ronald A. Schaupeter and William C. Vogel Jr. Front row, left to right, Secretary Mary Treder-Lang, Vice Commodore David E. Martin, M.D., Commodore J. Dennis Andrus, Rear Commodore James L. Taylor, Jr., Treasurer Robert L. Rader, Jr. Back row, left to right, General Manager Michael Mooney, CCM, directors Mark W. Peyser, William C. Vogel Jr., Richard J. Bania, James J. Downes, Robert B. Joslyn, Ronald A. Schaupeter and Daniel C. Bracciano.

NEW ARRIVALS

Alice Clara Roth
Jason and Heather Roth of Grosse Pointe Woods are the parents of a daughter, Alice Clara Roth, born Aug. 18, 2006. Maternal grandparents are Neal and Mary Bauer of Grosse Pointe Farms. Paternal grandparents are Frank and Bonnie Roth of Macomb Township. Erma Buckman of Sterling

Heights is the paternal great-grandmother.

Olivia Grace McMillin
Steven and Leslie McMillin of Grosse Pointe Farms are the parents of a daughter, Olivia Grace McMillin, born Aug. 23, 2006. Maternal grandparents are

Gray and Sandy Miller of Fair Haven and the late Robert M. Shaw.

The paternal grandparents are Gary and Janice McMillin of Destin, Fla. Great-grandmother is Phyllis Hepner of St. Clair Shores.

Henry Darrow Cole

Karla D. (Kary) Standish and Adam Cole of Chicago, Ill., are the parents of a son, Henry Darrow Cole, born Sept. 12, 2006.

Maternal grandparents are Karla Behr Standish and the late James Darrow Standish III.

Paternal grandparents are Drs. Sandra and Ted Cole of Ann Arbor.

COMING EVENTS

DAR

The junior members of the Louisa St. Clair Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) of Grosse Pointe meet at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30, at the home of Meredith Scheiwe, Grosse Pointe Park, junior member chair.

The program is Americanism project: helping new citizens and area children learn about the flag and the American's creed. High school and college members of the John Paul Jones Society Children of the American Revolution will be guests.

Reservations should be phoned to Scheiwe at (313) 881-3367.

Dancers

C.C. Plus will begin its winter 2007 "My Chance to Dance" special needs dance/exercise program for physically and/or developmentally disabled children and adults in early January.

Classes are held in Sterling Heights, St. Clair Shores, Mount Clemens, Grosse Pointe Woods and Warren.

No dance experience is necessary. Wheelchairs and walkers are welcome at all classes. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to attend and participate. For more information, call Kathy at (586) 412-8454 or visit ccplusdance.com.

Run/walk

Join the 37th annual New Year's Eve — Belle Isle Family Fun Run/Walk at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, at the Belle Isle casino building. For more information, call race director Jeanne Bocci at (313) 886-5560. To enter online, visit michiganrunner.com/belleisle.

Ford Hour tours

While Holiday Tours continue at Edsel & Eleanor Ford House through Jan. 7, only one date, Dec. 21, remains for the Holiday Evening Tours.

The evening tours, which are held from 6 to 8 p.m., feature specially guided tours of the candlelit home, holiday favorites sung by the Noteworthy Carolers and hot chocolate. The Tea Room will be open. The cost is \$11 per person and no reservations are required.

18th annual 'River Rhythm' fundraising event

Mariners Inn hosted River Rhythm 2006, its 18th annual dinner and auction fundraiser, at the Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle in October.

The event saw 350 in attendance and raised more than \$125,000 for the agency. Guests had a sit-down dinner, live jazz music and bidding on

auction items.

Carl Bentley, vice president of Strategic Staffing Solutions, was the recipient of the "Anchor of the Year" service award.

Other honorees included, BUDCO which provides in-kind design and printing services, and Fresh Farms Market

and Johnny B's Cookies, both of which weekly provide food to Mariners Inn.

Honorary committee members included: Sam Logan, Dominic Pangborn, Cynthia Pasky and Paul Huxley, Nancy and Jay Spenchian, James E. Taylor, Calvin R. Trent, Ph.D., and Martin Walsh.

NATIONAL



Looking for an original gift this holiday season? Why not surprise someone with Michigan's Finest Coney Island Chili Sauce?

That's right, you can now order National Coney Island's chili sauce and hot dogs to enjoy at home.

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PASTOR'S CORNER By John and Kathy Chateau

Unity within diversity

The constantly offers us wisdom if we are ready to learn. Recently, our two sons announced their upcoming marriages this summer (just three weeks apart). While there are many thoughts and emotions which identify as Catholics, but we have not lost our Presbyterian before last summer (I didn't even know how to spell other, growth has potential). When marriage partners stop trying to change each other and begin to support each other's presence — is the first basic step toward healthy unity.

When marriage partners stop trying to change each other and begin to support each other's presence — is the first basic step toward healthy unity. When marriage partners stop trying to change each other and begin to support each other's presence — is the first basic step toward healthy unity. When marriage partners stop trying to change each other and begin to support each other's presence — is the first basic step toward healthy unity.

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Church events

Carols and candlelight
Christ the King Lutheran in-
light and Communion.
The services will incorporate
favorite hymns, special music
offerings and the retelling of
the Christmas story.
The church is located on the
corner of Chalon and
Lortrop, Grosse Pointe
Farms.
Candlelight service
Christmas Eve candlelight
service with lessons and carols
begins at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec.
24 at First Christian Reformed
Church, 1444 Maryland,
Grosse Pointe Park.
Singles dance
Catholic Singles New Year's
Eve dinner and dance is from 7
p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 31.
The evening catered to those
in their 30s, 40s and 50s.
For more information, loca-
tion and tickets, call (734) 657-
7750.
Midnight Mass
St. Albertus will have a
Christmas midnight Mass
shared with traditional
Christmas carols and Polish
kolejki. Doors open at 11 p.m.
Parking is located on St. Aubin
and Canfield, Detroit.

Our call to Christmas love is a
universal hope to be united in
compassion. The songs of
Christmas help us hold on to
the preciousness of life in a
fragile, fleeting world. Every
time two people commit them-
selves to each other, there is
hope for the birth of new life
and love.
Every time we break down
boundaries of church walls,
Christians hope, and political joy-
altes, hope emerges —
recognition that we are one
with all of creation. This good
news of God-made-flesh re-
minds us again that no matter
what color, sex, race, or reli-
gion we are, we become a rich-
er, deeper, and better family
when we live and act as one.
True worship, Jesus taught,
does not happen on only one
mountain or in only one tem-
ple, but wherever human
hearts are open to God's pres-
ence. Whenever human
hearts are open to God's pres-
ence, we are ready for the message
of Christmas.
The good news of
Christmas, we believe, is the
recognition that we are one
with all of creation. This good
news of God-made-flesh re-
minds us again that no matter
what color, sex, race, or reli-
gion we are, we become a rich-
er, deeper, and better family
when we live and act as one.
True worship, Jesus taught,
does not happen on only one
mountain or in only one tem-
ple, but wherever human
hearts are open to God's pres-
ence.

WORSHIP SERVICE



Bethel Baptist Church

24600 Little Mack Ave., St. Clair Shores
(586) 772-2820
Ministry to Detroit's residents since 1894
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m., 9 a.m.
Wednesday AWANA Club 6:30 p.m.
and adult Bible Study 7 p.m.
Dr. J. Robert Cozart, Pastor
Scott Baeman, Youth Pastor
www.bethelbaptist.org

Saint Clare of Montalco Catholic Community

Regular Mass Schedule
Sunday, December 24, 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 23, 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.
CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE
Sunday, December 24, 8:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
12:00 p.m. Midnight Mass
(with Children's Nativity Program)
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 — CHRISTMAS DAY
9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
NEW YEAR'S DAY
Monday, January 1, 2007
9:00 a.m. (not a day of obligation)

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

20475 Sunnysdale Park
Grosse Pointe Woods
(Behind Former Jack and CVS)
Sunrise, Dec. 24
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
Christmas Eve, 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve, 10:00 p.m.
Festival Eucharist,
Carols, Chant
Nursery Care Available
Christmas Eve, 4:00 p.m.
Family Service
4:00 p.m. Family Service
9:00 p.m. Holy Communion
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
Nursery Available at
9:30 a.m., 4:00 and 9:00 p.m. Services
LOGOS Congregation
Rev. Robert D. Wright, Pastor
Rev. Pamela Beale-Gee, Associate Pastor
Information: (313) 884-4820

Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church

Spending a traditional Christmas Eve in the City
Sunday, December 24, 2006
10:30 a.m. Lessons and Carols
Church School - 2nd Grade
9:30 p.m. Candlelight Service
Prelude Music Beginning at 9:10 p.m.
Peter C. Smith, Preaching
Meditation: "Tis the Night Before..."
8625 E. Jefferson at Burns, Detroit
313-822-3456
Visit our website: www.japc.org

St. Paul E.L. Lutheran Church

375 Lortrop at Chalon* 881-6670
Worship with Communion
10:00 a.m., 4:00, 7:00 and 11:00 p.m.
10:30 p.m. Music prior to 11 p.m. service
Sunday, December 24th
10:00 a.m. Worship with Communion
10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Potluck Supper
No Worship Services
Rev. Frederick Hartman
Rev. Howard Waller

Christ Episcopal Church Detroit

A place of grace, a place of welcome, a place for you.
Christmas Eve Services
Sunday, December 24
Worship 10 a.m.
Family Service 8:00 p.m.
Candlelight Service 11:00 p.m.
1995 Mack Avenue
Grosse Pointe Woods
Presbyterian Church
313 886-4301
www.gpwc.org

Christ Episcopal Church Detroit

Christmas Eve, December 24th
5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant and Holy Communion
9:00 p.m. Candlelight Mass featuring Professional strings and choir.
Christmas Day, December 25th
9:00 a.m. Christmas Mass
960 E. Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, MI 48207
(313) 259-6688
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www.feelo.org
"Go Make Disciples"
Rev. Walter A. Schmidt, Pastor
Rev. Gerald Esholz, Associate Pastor
CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES
5:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service
with Special Children's Time
7:15 p.m. - Special Christmas Music
Candlelight Service
10:45 p.m. - Special Christmas Music
11:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service
Nursery Available
Nursery Available at
9:30 a.m., 4:00 and 9:00 p.m. Services
Information: (313) 884-4820
Rev. Robert D. Wright, Pastor
Rev. Pamela Beale-Gee, Associate Pastor

St. James Lutheran Church "on the Hill"

170 McMillan Rd. • Grosse Pointe Farms, MI
313-884-0511 • sfamesgp@ameritech.net

Worship and Holy Communion in Advent
Sundays 10:15 am & Wednesdays 12 noon
Christmas Eve 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.
On this Holy Night at 5:00 p.m. the Family Eucharist will begin our celebration of Jesus' birth. Children will have a prominent role in this liturgy. At 11:00 p.m. the traditional Christmas Eucharist will be celebrated and the beauty of candlelight and glorious music. Eucharist marking the incarnation of our Lord.
Christmas Day 11:00 a.m.
Christmas carols abound in this festive celebration of the incarnation of our Lord.
St. James Lutheran Church "on the Hill"
Church
Nursery Available

Historic Hartman's Church

A House of Prayer for All People
Since 1842
Traditional Anglican Worship
SUNDAY
8:30 and 11:00 a.m. - Holy Communion
and Nursery
11:00 a.m. - Church Sunday School
THURSDAY
On Hart Plaza at the Tunnel
Free Sound Parking in Ford Garage
of Jefferson at Woodward
170 E. Jefferson Avenue
Wednesday - Amazing Grace Seniors
The Tompkins Center at
Windmill Pointe Park 11:00 - 3:00
COME JOIN US
Pastor: Marguerite (Margo) Allen

GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1175 Lakemont at Kereval
Grosse Pointe Park 822-3823
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2006 4pm
(no morning service)
Thrift Shop CLOSED December 26th
every second Wednesday at
The Tompkins Center at
Windmill Pointe Park 11:00 - 3:00
Pastor: Marguerite (Margo) Allen

Methodist church introduces digital presence

Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church on Moross in Grosse Pointe Farms unveiled a complete makeover of its Web site at gpunc.org and along with it, a new logo.

"I prefer to think that we have a faith, not a brand," said the Rev. Robert Wright, senior pastor of the congregation. "But even the Bible has received a revision or two since we changed the look of our stationery, so I guess we were overdue."

The logo is a contemporary variation of the United Methodist cross and flame logo, set within a circle and several layers of color to resemble the church's stained-glass windows.

Britt Baubie, who worked with a committee and Details Communications Inc. of Birmingham, Ala., to create the new look said, "We wanted to connect to the whole family of United Methodist churches, because that is a core principle of the denomination. At the same time, we wanted our look to be fresh, and to suggest our place in a global community, where God's presence, like a circle, has no beginning or end."

Charlie Van Becelaere, the

current webmaster who worked on the Web makeover said, "Many people visit our church because they are searching for something. We want them to find us if they happen to be searching on Google. So many young people looking for churches often

refer to the Web as a first option."

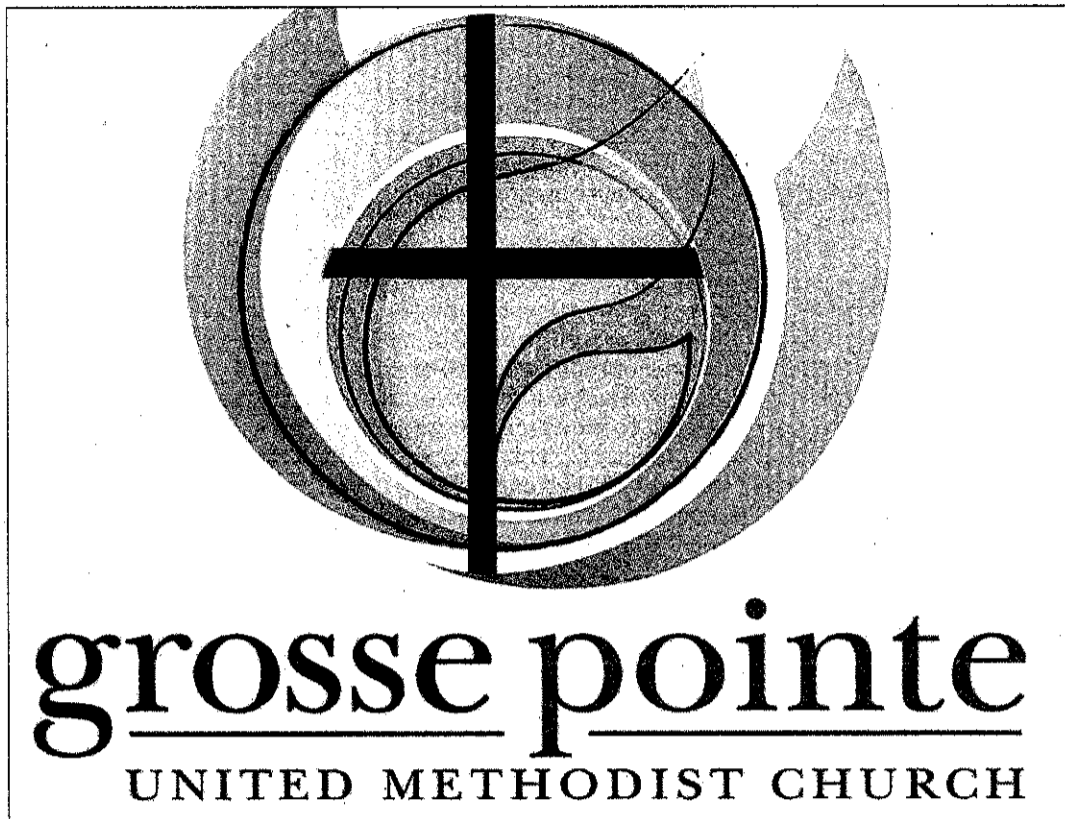
The Web site was introduced to the congregation during a recent worship service. It has descriptions of services, photos and news of events, information about church ministries, links to other

Methodist sites, such as the international relief agency UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), lists of resources and contact information. Members who are confined to their homes, college students, and former members around the world

will have a better opportunity to stay in touch with their friends and family in the church via the site, church officials said.

"Most of our members are

regular users of the Web, and they expect the organizations they belong to will have a professional Web presence. Now we have one," Van Becelaere said.



We share the same
JOYS OF THE SEASON.

May this Holiday season bring you the joy of family and friends.

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282 Chalfonte Ave.

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Wednesday Testimony Meeting
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

All are warmly welcome at both services
Free Childcare provided
Questions? 884-2426

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church

Christmas Eve Day
10:00 a.m. FAMILY WORSHIP
(crib room available)

Christmas Eve
Carols & Candlelight
5:30 p.m. & 11:30 p.m.
Communion at 11:30 p.m.

Rev. Ed Bray, Pastor
www.gpcong.org
gpcong@sbcglobal.net
884-3075

Christ the King Lutheran Church
Mack at Lochmoor
884-5090

Advent Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Advent Worship 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 20th

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
& Bible Classes
Supervised Nursery Provided
www.christthekinglp.org
Randy S. Boelter, Pastor
Timothy A. Holzerland, Assc. Pastor

Grosse Pointe Baptist Church
Christ Centered and Caring - Committed to Youth and Community

Sunday Worship - 11:00 AM
Sunday School - 9:30 AM for Age 2 - Adult
Awana Clubs Wednesday @ 6:15 p.m.
Middle School Youth meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Senior High Youth meet Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

21336 Mack Avenue Grosse Pointe Woods
Phone: (313) 881-3343

The Christmas Season at St. Ambrose Catholic Church

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Saturday, December 23, 2006 MASS AT 4:00 P.M.
Sunday, December 24, 2006 MASS AT 10:00 A.M.

VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST
Sunday, December 24, 2006
CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT 4:00 P.M.

FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST
Monday, December 25, 2006
Concert at 11:30 p.m. Christmas Eve
MIDNIGHT MASS AT 12:00 A.M.
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY AT 8:30 A.M.
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY AT 11:15 A.M.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Saturday, December 30, 2006
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.
Sunday, December 31, 2006
MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

NEW YEAR'S DAY
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
Monday, January 1, 2007
MASS AT 10:00 A.M.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday, January 6, 2007
MASS AT 4:00 P.M. - CONFIRMATION LITURGY
Sunday, January 7, 2007
MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at 15020 Hampton Road between Wayburn and Maryland, one block north of Jefferson, just west of the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall. Telephone: (313) 822-2814.

GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH
Established 1865 The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Friday, December 22
7:30 Ecumenical Men's Breakfast

Sunday, December 24
11:00 Advent Worship
Nursery Available

5:00 p.m. Family Worship
Nursery Available

7:30 p.m. Communion & Candle Lighting Worship

10:00 p.m. Candle Lighting Worship
Christmas Preludes at 7:00 & 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 31
11:00 a.m. Worship
Nursery Available

A STEPHEN MINISTRY and LOGOS Congregation
16 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms • 882-5330
www.gpmchurch.org

Christ the King Lutheran Church

December 24th
5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Special Music

December 25th - 10:00 a.m.
with Carols and Readings

December 31st - 10:00 a.m.
New Years Eve Worship with Holy Communion

Randy S. Boelter, Pastor
Timothy A. Holzerland,

Old St. Mary's Catholic Church
Greektown-Detroit
(corner of Monroe & St. Antoine)

Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 24, 2006
Masses at 5:30 p.m. and 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day
December 25, 2006
Masses at 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. (Latin) and 12:00 p.m.

Weekend Masses
Saturday: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. (Latin) 12:00 p.m.

Daily Mass:
Monday - Saturday at 12:15 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church
Woodward Avenue and I-75 (exit 50)
NEXT TO COMERICA PARK
www.stjohnsdetroit.org
(313) 962-7358

Sunday, December 24th, 2006
Advent IV - 8am and 10am Service in the Chapel

Christmas Eve
5:15 pm Children's Pageant Service
10:30 pm Carol Prelude Service
11:00 pm Festive Holy Communion Service with our professional choir

Monday, December 25th - Christmas Day
11:00 am Service only, in the Chapel, á cappella

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6B | SENIORS

SENIOR SCENE By Ruth Cain

There's change in Christmas perspective



Christmas is just around the corner and I've been thinking how different the holiday has been for me during the different stages of my life.

As a child, I thought Christmas was magical. Presents would come, but in the meantime, I could feast on the rich colors of red, green and gold on such beautiful fabrics as satin, velvet and brocades.

The lights on our tree, to say nothing of the lights shining out the windows and some pretty grand lights in Grosse Pointe, were beautiful.

(Outdoor lights today are spectacles that would have left me speechless.)

I had been accustomed most of the year to somewhat dull and routine church music. What a pleasure when Christmas carols filled the air.

Putting up the tree was great fun. Ornaments from many years ago had been saved and were placed carefully on the tree.

Who had heard of artificial trees then? Years later when all my grown children had beautiful artificial trees, they would not allow me to get one. Maybe that was because a real tree reminded them of the Christmases when they were children.

The final decoration on the tree was tinsel. The grownups quickly tired of placing the small bunches. But I persisted in meticulously putting strands

of tinsel where I thought they were needed and looked most beautiful.

One of my favorite pastimes during the season was taking strands of crinkled tinsel and using my fingers to straighten it into beautiful pieces of silver.

Skip a few years and there I was, a wife and mother of seven children. My role had changed, I was no longer that child who thought Christmas was magical. Now I was Santa's helper.

It wasn't that hard a job. There was no TV bombarding them with ads of the wonderful, expensive toys they had to have. Once you'd figured out what the kids wanted, shopping was a snap because there were so many gifts within our budget.

Decorating the house was not complicated. A well-deco-

rated tree, Christmas objects around the house, red tablecloths and the kids thought it was beautiful. We never had outside lights primarily because we didn't know how to run the electricity to the outside. But not too many houses in our neighborhood had them anyway.

I may just be fantasizing about the good old days, but I do think raising a family was much easier in those earlier days.

There had to have been violence in our city, but we didn't hear about it. Most TV programs, as well as movies, were appropriate for children. Soupy Sales was about as far out as comic programs went. I remember my children begging to be allowed to stay up until 8:30 p.m. so they could see "Riflemen." On that series, only the bad men got shot.

Gore and torture were never shown on that program.

When Christmas morning was over, we went to my mother's house for dinner. She thought my children were the most intelligent, beautiful and talented of all children and never saw any shortcomings. Years after her death, one son told me with great conviction that Grandma was an angel.

Of course she didn't have to discipline them or make decisions that they didn't like.

Which now brings me to my current role — and I'm not sure what that is.

Instead of the holiday meals I used to prepare, my children now have houses, have the big meals and won't let me help.

Children have always been such fun to shop for. But my youngest grandchild is now

13, at the age when money is the only appropriate gift, as I found out.

For Christmas and birthdays I usually gave my granddaughters outfits I thought they would love.

My son finally told me, "Mom, the girls aren't wearing the clothes you gave them because they aren't what the other kids are wearing." I was horrified, and wanted to know why they didn't exchange them. "They didn't want to hurt your feelings," was the explanation.

Now that so many of my efforts are no longer necessary, I guess my role is to sit back, enjoy the beautiful colors, the spectacular lights, the lovely music, and dream on.

I hope you all have a wonderful, happy holiday.

You can reach Cain at her email: ruthcain@comcast.net

Preventing life-threatening dehydration among seniors

Maintaining adequate fluid balance is an essential component of health at every stage of life, yet can become more challenging as we grow older and more vulnerable to shifts in water balance that can result in dehydration.

Why does hydration matter? In older adults, adequate fluid consumption has been associated with fewer falls, less constipation, better recoveries in orthopedic patients, reduced risk of bladder cancer in men and lower rates of fatal heart disease.

Dehydration can lead to constipation, falls, adverse effects from medications, urinary tract and respiratory infections, delirium, renal failure, seizure, hypo- and hyperthermia.

In older adults with other health problems, it can precipitate emergency or repeated hospitalizations and increased mortality rates among older adults.

Who's at risk:

◆ Age and ethnicity. From 1990 to 2000, hospitalizations for dehydration in older adults increased by 40 percent.

Adults age 85 years and older were three times more likely to have a diagnosis of dehydration than younger adults.

Among older adults who maintain hydration, physical or emotional illness, surgery, trauma or higher physiologic demands may still increase the risk.

◆ Certain psychiatric medications can cause dryness of the mouth, constipation, or urinary retention that can aggravate hydration status.

◆ A person's level of physical dependency and cognitive impairment can cause a person to be unable or forget to drink.

◆ Nursing homes. According to an article in the June issue of the American Journal of Nursing, nursing home residents have habits that might put them at risk, such as those who "will not drink" due to concerns about controlling their urine or memory problems that cause them to forget to drink.

◆ "If nurses don't ensure older adults have an adequate fluid intake, we have seriously failed them," said Diana Mason, RN, Ph.D., FAAN, editor-in-chief, American Journal of Nursing.

◆ "For older adults, it's essential to have consistent fluid intake throughout the day, especially because they should not consume large amounts of fluid at one time."

Dehydration can lead to a variety of complications.

As reported in a study conducted by Janet Mentes, Ph.D., APRN, BC, assistant professor at the University of California Los Angeles School of Nursing, the following tips should be practiced for preventing dehydration:

◆ Identify and treat correctable causes of dehydration such as vomiting and diarrhea.

◆ Observe the color of the urine: Dark, concentrated urine can be a sign of dehydration.

◆ Provide glasses and cups that are not too large or heavy to handle, and have straws available at the bedside.

◆ During hot weather, be especially attentive to replacing excessive lost fluid.

◆ If you have an older family member or friend in a hospital, nursing home or other facility, make sure water is within reach.

For older adults, it's essential to have consistent fluid intake throughout the day, especially because they should not consume large amounts of fluid at one time.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Basket of goodies

Services for Older Citizens (SOC) collected donations and supplies for holiday baskets that were assembled, wrapped in cellophane and tied with ribbons at the Neighborhood Club. When assembled, drivers and volunteers, including Grosse Pointe Park resident Jack Glover, 7 years old, delivered the baskets to Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods seniors.

Every day can't be a holiday. But they can all be special.



Happy Holidays from Sunrise Senior Living. Please call or stop by today and let us know how we can help with the care of a senior in your life.

Being surrounded by people who care doesn't have to end with the holidays.

Since 1981, Sunrise Senior Living has provided a variety of living arrangements, personalized assistance and care from people who recognize that each senior is unique.

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Meals for homebound

The Bon Secours Cottage Meals Program helps individuals for periods up to eight weeks. Balanced, hot meals (regular diet only) are prepared by Food & Nutrition Services and delivered by Bon Secours Cottage volunteers during the noon hour Monday through Friday, excluding major holidays.

Residents of the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods and Detroit area (ZIP codes 48224, 48225, 48230 and 48236 only) are eligible.

Volunteer drivers are also needed to deliver the meals during the noon hour one or more days a week. A valid operator's license and proof of automobile insurance are required.

For more information about volunteering or receiving Meals for the Homebound deliveries, call Bon Secours Volunteer Services at (313) 343-1795.

HEALTH COLUMN By Dr. David Transue

Alarming number of children's Type 2 diabetes

Ten years ago, it was unusual to diagnose a child with Type 2 diabetes, a disease which results from the body's inability to process or use insulin effectively (commonly known as adult-onset diabetes). On average, I would see only two to three new cases about every two or three years. Unfortunately, now I am diagnosing and treating many more children with Type 2 diabetes. I see two new cases about every other month and treat several children every week for Type 2 diabetes.

Risk Factors

The sad reality is, many children today are overweight, even obese. Being overweight is one of the greatest risk factors for developing Type 2 diabetes. In fact, about 85 percent of children diagnosed with the disease have a body mass index (BMI) in the 85th percentile or above for their age and sex. These children typically have an unhealthy diet of high-fat, low-fiber foods.

In addition, these kids get little or no physical activity (the second biggest risk factor). Eating a poor diet and inactivity are two lifestyle factors that are a recipe for Type 2 diabetes. Other risk factors include:

- ◆ Family history: roughly 75 percent of children with Type 2 diabetes have a parent or sibling with the disease.

- ◆ Race: African American, Hispanic, Native American, Asian American and Pacific Islander children are at greater risk.

- ◆ Gender: girls are more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes than boys.

- ◆ History of gestational diabetes: a child's chance of developing Type 2 diabetes increases if the mother had diabetes while pregnant.

Preventing Type 2 diabetes

As parents, there are several things you can do to help your children avoid developing this disease. First and foremost you need to pay attention to their eating habits. Too often children's diets are loaded with high-fat, processed junk food. Kids need more fruits and vegetables and need to eat a balanced diet from the five food groups.

One of the biggest sources of junk food comes in the form of "liquid calories"—soda pop, sports drinks, even milk and juice, in excessive amounts are unhealthy for kids. Typically these drinks are loaded with sugar and have very little nutritional value. These drinks also

tend to be consumed every two to three hours, so kids are never fasting (and all of us should be on a feeding and fasting cycle). If children eat or drink every couple hours, their bodies never get accustomed to the feeding and fasting cycle. Also their bodies can't burn off all the calories they are consuming and the "extra" gets stored as fat.

Contributing to this overeating trend are daycare centers and schools that promote mid-morning and/or afternoon snacks, and provide easy access to vending machines. Parents can counter this by making sure children are not

snacking out of boredom at home, and drinking water instead of pop and juice.

Another key to avoiding Type 2 diabetes is physical activity. Exercise increases the body's efficiency to use calories and help control weight. After school is an ideal time for children to work in some exercise, before plunging into homework for the evening. Encourage them to play outside, get involved in an individual or team sport, or take a family walk. Also, parents should set limits on video game playing, TV-watching and computer use—no more than two hours of "screen

time" every day.

Lastly, parents should model good behavior. The old adage: "Do as I say not as I do" just doesn't cut it here. If you want your children to have a healthy lifestyle, make sure you are setting a good example.

St. John resources

At St. John Hospital, we recognize this growing trend of kids and teenagers with Type 2 diabetes and have started two support groups to help families.

Weight Loss Support Group (for children and teenagers)
From 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, beginning Jan. 3 at St. John

Hospital.

Participants need a referral from their St. John pediatric endocrinologist.

Type 2 Diabetes Support Group for Parents Children and Teens

A different topic is covered every month. Meetings are held from 7 to 8 p.m. in St. John Hospital's lower level (basement) education center.
Jan. 24: Complications of Diabetes and Periodic Screening
Classroom A
Feb. 28: Ask the Psychologist
Lower Level Conference Room

March 3: Diabetes and Exercise
Classroom C

April 25: Information on the American Diabetes Association Camp for 2007 and vendor fair showcasing the latest in blood glucose meters, insulin and insulin pumps in the auditorium.

For more information on the support groups, contact St. John Health Connect at (888) 440-REAL (7325).

Editor's Note: Dr. David Transue is the director of Pediatric Endocrinology, St. John Children's Center, at St. John Hospital and Medical Center.

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\$85/mo

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Starting at
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WITH PRESCRIPTION COVERAGE

Basic Rx
\$110/mo

Enhanced Rx²
\$116/mo

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Members are able to see any provider without a referral; however, members' costs are lower when they stay within the Alliance Medicare PPO network. Emergency and urgently needed care are available out of network with no additional cost sharing.

Starting at
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WITH PRESCRIPTION COVERAGE

Basic Rx
\$125/mo

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Clinical trial to fight osteoporosis

Can a twice-yearly injection prove as effective as Fosamax, the leading treatment for osteoporosis?

That's what a new clinical research trial led by Dr. Henry Bone, who's pioneering efforts to combat osteoporosis helped establish the efficacy of Fosamax, will explore.

The trial is currently recruiting patients to compare the effects of a 70 mg weekly dose of Fosamax, one of the most effective treatments for osteoporosis, with those of Denosumab, an investigational drug sponsored by Amgen.

To qualify for this clinical trial, participants must have taken 70 mg of Fosamax weekly for at least six months, and may not be on systemic hormone therapy. There are some additional qualifications that will be explained by the study center.

Every participant will receive one active drug or the other, along with calcium and vitamin D supplements.

All study-related treatment and tests are free of charge, and participants will receive \$27 per office visit while enrolled in the clinical trial. For more information, call the study center at (888) 844-9010.

8B | ENTERTAINMENT

DOWN TO EARTH By Kathleen Peabody

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire . . .



story about chestnuts, including growing them, harvesting them and developing a viable market.

"Instead of creating a surplus with nowhere to go," said Fulbright, "we're helping to grow the market along with the trees." Some statewide pioneer nut growers are taking a chance on chestnuts.

"So far, we've made great inroads," Fulbright said. "What in 2005 took 12 months to use up, this year were gone in three months."

Almost like having a franchise for interested chestnut growers, Fulbright was asked to pull together a cooperative for those who would like to participate. The purposes include promoting the establishment of nut and certain small fruit tree plantings in the region, best growing practices for growing using sustainable agricultural goals and scientific research in nut tree breeding and culture. The cooperative also assists in marketing by helping to educate producer, retailer and the general public.

This holiday season, the streets of Greenfield Village, The Henry Ford in Dearborn is serving roasted chestnuts from Michigan orchards.

Zingerman's Deli in Ann Arbor uses only Michigan chestnuts in its chestnut soup. And, Earthy Delights in DeWitt, sells a product called chestnuts in maple syrup, using the state's own chestnuts.

A possible economic source for our state's economy lies with this unlikely resource. And, at this holiday time, perhaps the only time of year they are even considered, Michigan chestnuts are coming into their own.

A conversation with the guru of chestnuts, Dennis Fulbright, Ph.D., a plant pathologist at Michigan State University, gave much of the

Fulbright sees his mission as helping the growers understand the best growth methods, which species to plant, and accepting that it's an orchard and not a forest that is to yield the best results for all.

"The orchard is a well-functioning factory with certain cultivars chosen to be planted and grown for its fruit," Fulbright said. To make the concept work commercially, there's much to learn.

The chestnut tree, *Castanea* species, has five possible entities, with four types most available as a food source. The American Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) and the larger European chestnuts (*Castanea sativa*), grown on the West Coast and, of course, in Europe, where there is still a large market for the nut, continues to be most prone to blight in this country. Most often grown on the East Coast, the Chinese Chestnut (*Castanea mollissima*), not as readily prone to the same blight, has found a home in many orchards.

"There are lots of species to choose from," Fulbright said. "And many opportunities for cultivars created from these species." And, Fulbright stressed that it's these cultivars that are best for growing in our state.

Where are chestnut orchards growing in Michigan? "Fenton is a great place," said Fulbright. "Some are growing in Lapeer as well as the Utica area."

All chestnut trees need a well-drained loamy sandy soil to grow best. No wet feet here.

"Unfortunately, some people were told chestnuts can grow anywhere," Fulbright said. "It's not true and they put in plants before knowing the rules." Some of these growers didn't find success with their orchards which can take six years to show a useful yield.

Besides teaching their members to go after the best cultivars of chestnut trees, the success of some of the products created by members of the cooperative have shown the concept victorious. Chestnut Chips, a low-fat snack food or a dehydrated version of chestnuts are found on the Web site.

For information about the products, recipes or almost anything "chestnut," go to chestnutgrower.org.

Another secret of the chestnut is the flour made from the nut.

The Web says that chestnut flour is the secret ingredient used in European pastry.

With the diverse micro-climates found in Michigan, anyone interested in growing a chestnut orchard should also

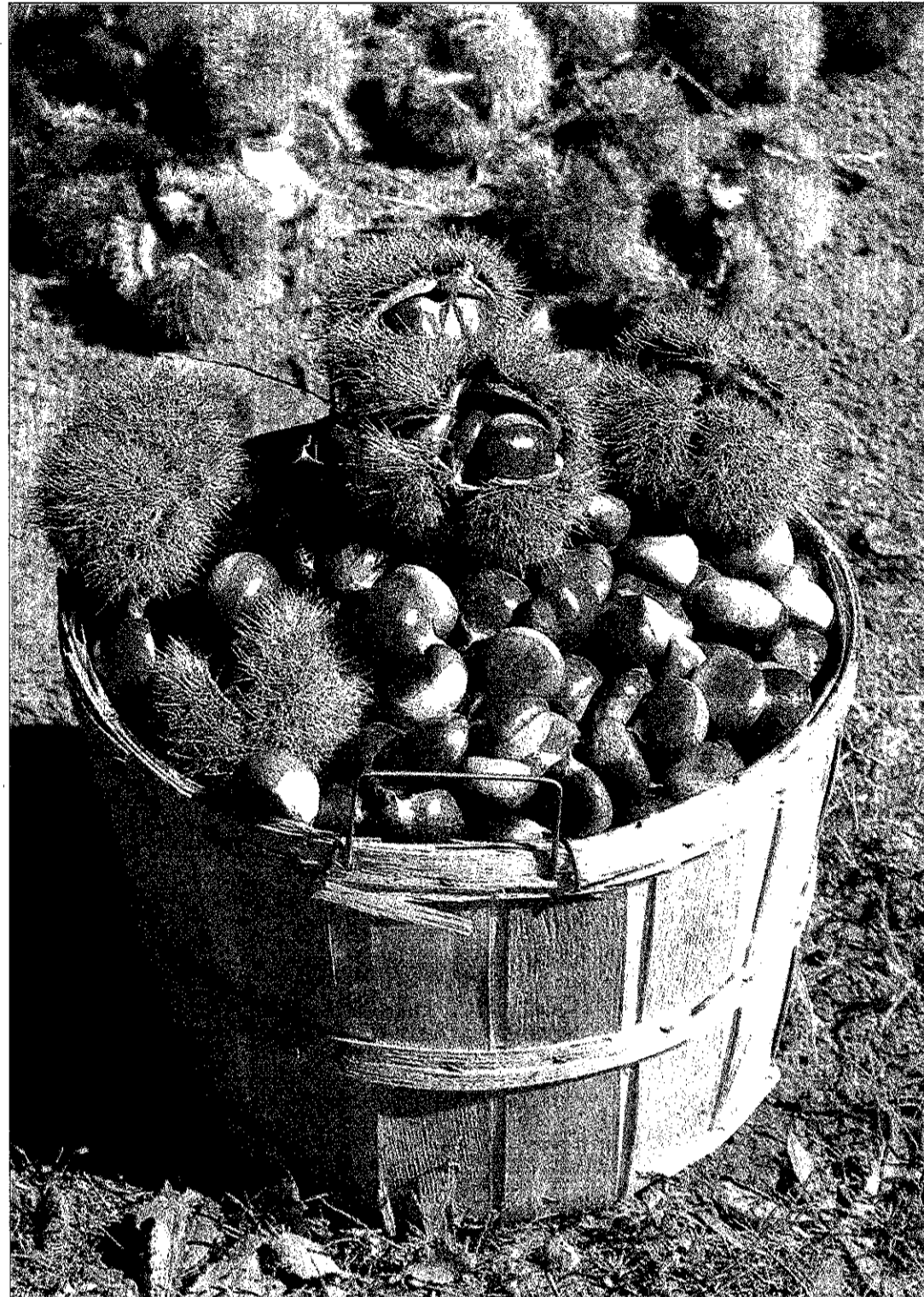


PHOTO BY DENNIS W. FULBRIGHT, PH.D.

Chestnuts are coming to a market near you. As yet harvested by hand in the United States, Europeans have developed mechanical harvesters.

consider visiting the Web site for a great deal of planning and growing information.

You may choose to try some chestnuts on that open fire or consider a recipe from the site.

Any way you'd like, try some Michigan grown chestnuts and share them with your loved ones this holiday season.

Happy Christmas to you and yours!

Kathleen Peabody is an Advanced Master Gardener in Grosse Pointe Woods. Reach her online at kpeabody@grossepointe-news.com

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A special chestnut recipe

Milliman's Chocolate Chestnut Cake

- Chestnut mix:**
1 cup chopped chestnuts
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup dark rum
Cake:
4 ounces melted chocolate
3 tablespoons cocoa
1 cup butter
1 cup sugar
4 eggs
1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla

- 1 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
1 cup buttermilk
1 cup chestnut mix
dark rum
Simmer chestnuts, sugar and rum until the chestnuts are soft and the rum is all but evaporated.
Blend in a food processor until smooth. Let cool.
Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Beat the butter until light and beat until fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the vanilla, then the flour and salt, cocoa and baking powder, alternating

with the buttermilk. Make sure it is mixed well. Fold in the chocolate and chestnut mixture. Pour into a floured cake pan and bake for about an hour or until a toothpick once inserted into the cake comes out clean. Remove from oven and let cool slightly. Turn it out and onto a cake plate. While warm drizzle with dark rum.
Cake can be frosted or simply served with whipped cream.

—Chef Jim Milliman
Hattie's Grill,
Sutton's Bay
Other chestnut recipes may be found at chestnutgrowersinc.com/recipes.

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'It's a Wonderful Life' radio show

"It's a Wonderful Life - The Radio Show" will be performed at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, at The Assumption Cultural Center Hall, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores.

Directed by Marty Bufalini, this theatrical presentation of an old-time radio broadcast is reminiscent of the 1940s when radio shows were performed live before large studio audiences.

"It's A Wonderful Life" and George Bailey hold a very special place in the hearts of movie lovers. A few years ago, I re-wrote the story to play for the ear," said Bufalini, of the City of Grosse Pointe.

Using his radio background and knowledge of drama, Bufalini, who plays the villain-

ous Mr. Potter and many other characters in the performance, incorporated the necessary sound effects and transitions so it would play as a radio show and for the "theatre of the mind."

"Actors double and sometimes triple up on voices.

"The coordination between the actors, the director and sound effects technicians is an amazing thing to see and with the story itself, makes for darn good "visual" theatre as well," he said.

About 90 percent of all sound effects are performed live using mechanical devices. For example, professional actors re-create footsteps in snow, a half-size door on wheels is used for door effects, bells are rung, a

Radio show tickets

Tickets are \$14 for adults, \$12 for senior citizens and children 12 and under. They can be purchased by calling The Assumption Cultural Center at (586) 779-6111.

water tank is used for water effects and a wind machine is used to re-create the wind.

Tickets are \$14 for adults, \$12 for senior citizens and children 12 and under and can be purchased by calling The Assumption Cultural Center at (586) 779-6111.

Performers are: George - Brian Thibault; Mary - Susan Miller; Clarence - R. J. Stewart of Novi; Uncle Billy, Mr. Gower and Dr. Cambell - Bob

Reynolds of Grosse Pointe Farms; Ma Bailey, Mrs. Davis and other voices - Jann Hight of St. Clair Shores; Joseph, Bert and Mr. Welch - Bill Giovan of Grosse Pointe Farms; Ernie, Pa Bailey, Harry Bailey, Randall and Nick - Joe Munem; Mr. Potter, Martini and Mickey - Bufalini; Zuzu and young Mary - Emma Kruse of Grosse Pointe; young Violet - Chrissy Panagos of Grosse Pointe Woods; Young George - William Kruse of Grosse Pointe; and Young Harry - Charles Kruse of Grosse Pointe.

Detroit Symphony rings in the new year with electronic music

Three pioneers of electronic music will take the stage New Year's Eve at the Music Box when the Detroit Symphony Orchestra presents "Detroit Legends of Electronic Music" beginning at 10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31.

Derrick May, Kevin Saunderson and Carl Craig will perform their signature blend of techno, hip-hop and pop music until 4 a.m. Electronic music artists Theo Parrish and Al Ester will spin the tunes in Altesee Hall.

Tickets for the "Detroit Legends of Electronic Music" are \$55 for general admission and \$100 for the VIP section until Monday, Dec. 25. After that date, prices increase to \$75 for general admission and \$150 for VIP seating.

The VIP tickets include access to cabanas in performance spaces featuring private bars and bottle service, private restrooms and a private outdoor smoking area, valet parking, hats and noise makers and hors d'oeuvres.

A LA ANNIE By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff

Santa-pleasing cookie recipe



Merry Christmas from the kitchen of A la Annie. This week ... pecan biscotti with cranberries and apricots. Little prep, easy to assemble, this biscotti has a long (one month) shelf life when stored properly, the perfect cookie to take you through the holiday season.

Pecan Biscotti with Cranberries and Apricots

2 cups flour
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup cornmeal
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 eggs plus 2 egg whites
1 teaspoon each vanilla, al-

mond, and orange extract
3/4 cup pecan pieces
1/2 cup dried cranberries
1/2 cup diced dried apricots
2 tablespoons melted butter
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease one large or two small baking sheets and set aside. In a large mixing bowl, combine all of the dry ingredients (flour through salt). To the mixture add all of the remaining ingredients and beat with an electric mixer until the dough is slightly sticky.

Use wet hands to divide the dough into two halves. Shape each dough half into a 12-inch-long, 2-inch-wide, and 3/4-inch-high log. (Allow plenty of space for the cookie logs to spread out during baking.)

Bake at 350 for 25 minutes, until golden brown.

Remove from oven and using two spatulas carefully transfer the logs to a cooling rack to rest for 10 minutes. Transfer to a cutting board and

using a sharp knife cut into 3/4-inch slices.

Place the slices on their side and put them back on the baking sheet and return to the oven for 5 minutes. Flip the cookies and bake for 5 more minutes.

Remove from oven and transfer to a cooling rack to cool completely. Store in an airtight container for up to one month (in a cool place). Recipe should yield about 36 pieces.

Use a knife to dice the apricots (a food processor won't work) into little pieces.

The cornmeal gives the biscotti an interesting texture, while the dried fruit adds a calming sweetness.

This biscotti is really delicious and will make a terrific "thank you" for the special people in your life.

Deck the halls with pecan biscotti with cranberries and apricots. Santa Claus will thank you.

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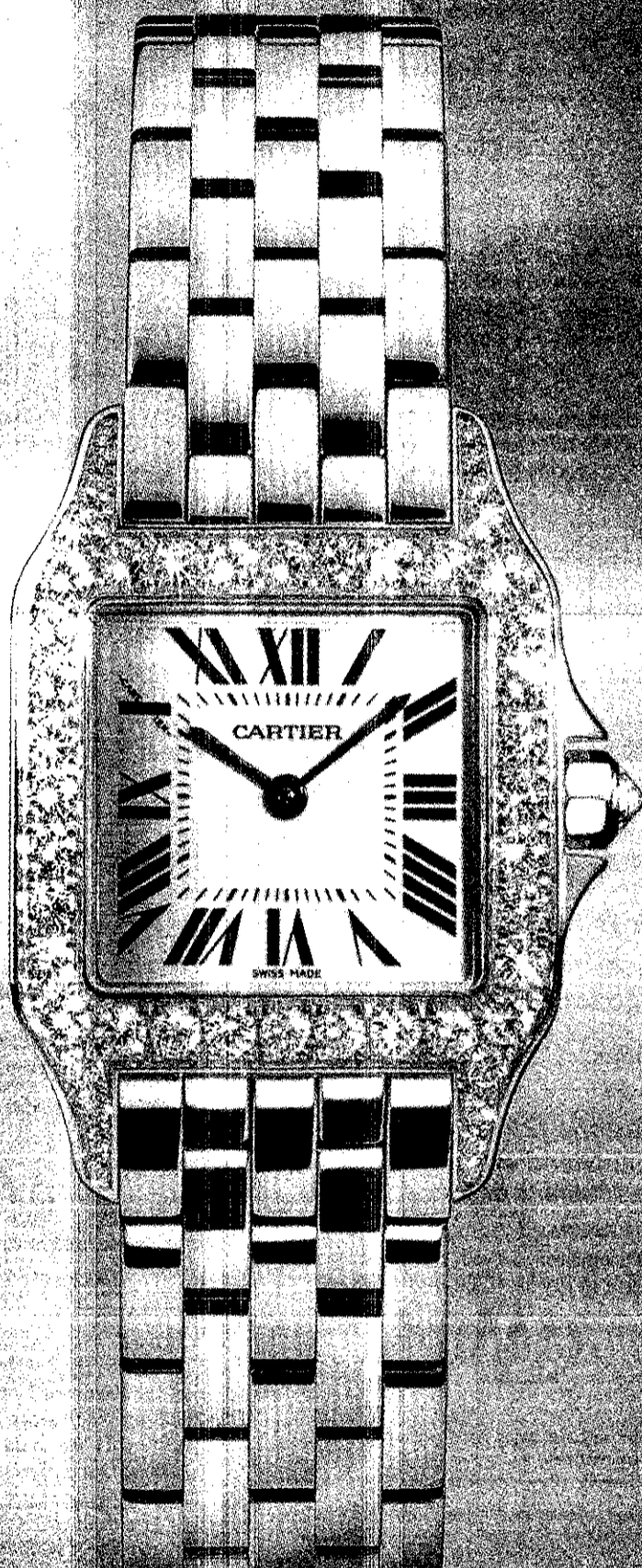
A copy of any WMTV5 program can be obtained for \$15 on VHS tape or \$20 for a DVD!

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SPORTS

SPORTS Goals galore

North hockey team scores 16 goals in a pair of victories PAGE 2C

2C NORTH HOOPS | 3C ULS HOCKEY | 4C CLASSIFIED

NORTH VOLLEYBALL

Starts 2-0 in MAC Red play

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North hasn't been acting like a young volleyball team during the first month of the season.

The Norsemen won their first two matches in the all-ways-tough Macomb Area Conference Red Division and last weekend they reached the semifinals of the Warren-Mott tournament.

"We're very young," said North coach Kim Lockhart. "We have only two returning seniors. Our sophomores and freshmen are getting a lot of playing time and they're doing well. We're glad to be 2-0 in the league going into the break."

In their most recent match, the Norsemen defeated MAC Red rival Anchor Bay 25-18, 25-20, 26-24.

In the final game, North came from an early 7-1 deficit. Teresa Nagel served the final two points for the Norsemen. "We were battling from behind that whole set," Lockhart said.

North had several outstanding performances against the Tars. Allyce Kulek had 26 digs from her libero position. Setter Bridget Reno had 34 assists

and 10 digs.

A quartet of players from North's MAC Red champion basketball team also had strong games against Anchor Bay. Sarah Perry had 11 kills, Ariel Braker had 11 kills and five blocks, Christine Klein had 10 kills and four blocks and Maddie Kent finished with nine digs and nine kills.

North opened the season with a 25-22, 18-25, 23-25, 32-30, 15-10 victory against Port Huron Northern.

"We came back from 10 down in the fourth game," Lockhart said. "The girls hung in there and played tough."

Braker had eight kills and 13 blocks, Klein had eight kills and nine blocks and Reno collected 32 assists. Nagel had four ace serves, four kills and 12 digs, while Kent had four kills and 14 digs.

In the Mott tournament, the Norsemen won the first game against perennial state power Marysville 25-19, but the Vikings came back to win the next two, 25-12 and 15-8.

"That was a big win, beating Marysville," Lockhart said.

In pool play, North swept two games from Madison

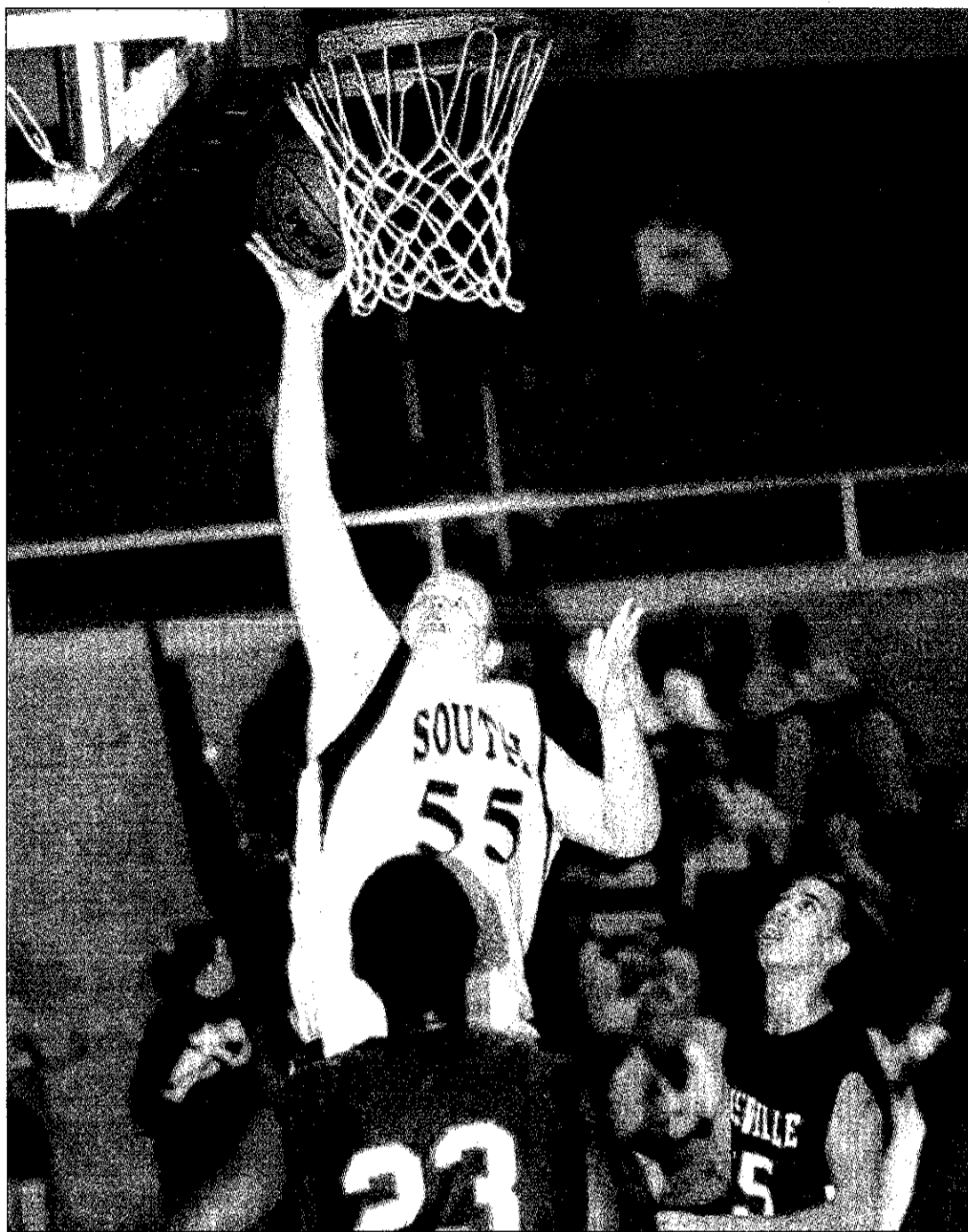


PHOTO BY DR. J. RICHARD DUNLAP

South's P.T. Shirar scores over Roseville's Cortez Chambers (23) and Eric Woods.

League opener a good victory

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

One of the topics that Grosse Pointe South basketball coach Jay Ritchie discussed with his team at Sunday's practice was the difference between a good victory and a bad victory.

He had two perfect examples last week to illustrate his point.

"We only won by two points on Friday but I was very happy with the way we played on both ends of the floor," Ritchie said of the 45-43 victory against L'Anse Creuse North in the Macomb Area Conference White Division opener for each team.

"On Tuesday we won by six points (48-42 over Roseville), but it felt more like a loss. We didn't play well at all. That wasn't a good victory."

In the LCN game, South led by 12 points with seven minutes remaining, but during a 45-second span the Crusaders hit two three-point shots and

See SOUTH, page 3C

See SPIKERS, page 3C

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ULS girls get first victory

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

Head coach Laura Owczarski and her University Liggett School girls hockey team is hungry for a win.

Last week, the Lady Knights lost 9-1 to league powerhouse Plymouth-Canton-Salem.

"We were OK in the first couple of periods, but then we just couldn't get anything going," Owczarski said. "PCS is a great team and we didn't have the numbers to keep up with them."

Senior Monique Squiers scored the Lady Knights' lone goal midway through the final period.

"We have played better hockey, but the results still aren't what we had hoped for," Owczarski said. "If we play a solid three periods, we can get a win against Mercy."

The Lady Knights earned that elusive victory, beating host Mercy Unified 3-2 in overtime.

"I think this can be a turning point to our season," senior captain Elizabeth Palmer said. "We never got down on ourselves, even when we were behind late in the game."

Squiers scored to get ULS on the board with only three minutes left in the final period.

Freshman Morgan Ellis tied the game with a goal in the final moments.

With 4:43 left in the extra session, Squiers scored to win the game.

"It was a sweet win," senior Meghan Wilson said. "We were jumping for joy after the game."

Sophomore goalkeeper Janaya Gripper played her best game of the season to earn the victory.

The University Liggett School girls hockey team improved to 1-3 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League and 1-5 overall.

Park runner is first in AAU event

Grosse Pointe Park resident Ben Miller, a student at De La Salle, won the AAU 16-and-under National Cross Country Championships at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

Miller's winning time was 15:26 for the five-kilometer course.

Earlier, he finished sixth in the Division I state meet with a time of 15:53.

SOUTH: Improves record to 4-0

Continued from page 2C

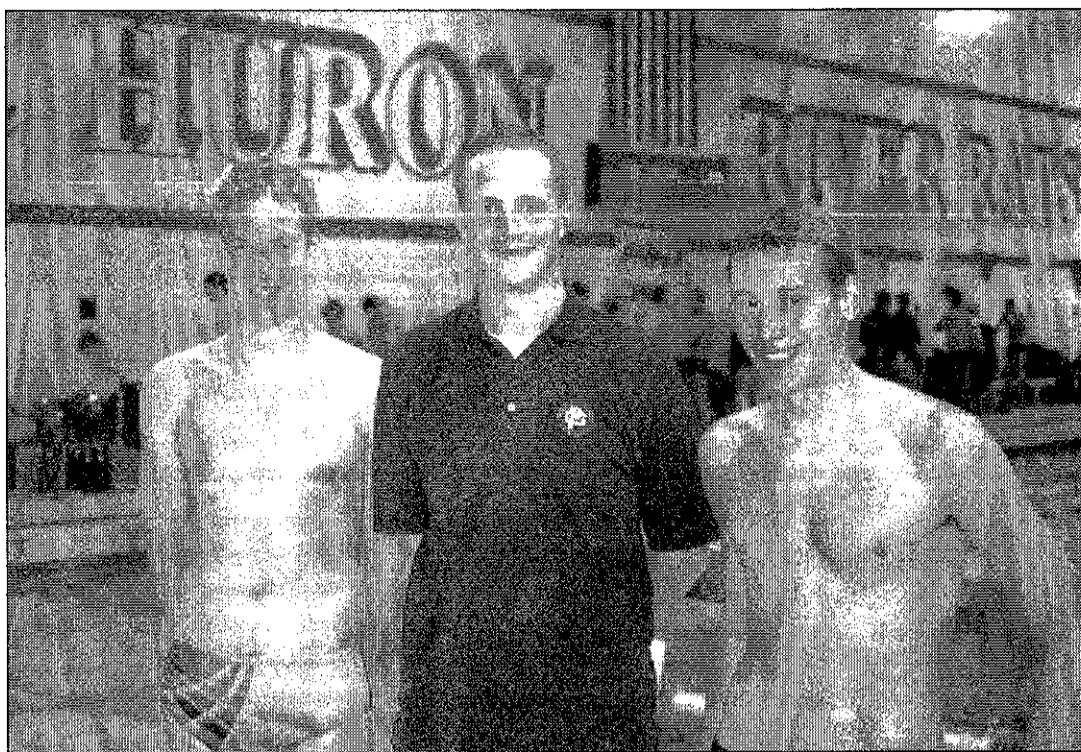
converted a three-point play to cut the lead to three points.

"We didn't do that much wrong," Ritchie said of the LCN rally. "That's one of those times where you have to give the other team credit for making some good plays."

The Blue Devils headed off the Crusaders and chalked up their fourth victory without a loss this season.

"Our defensive effort was outstanding," Ritchie said. "The guards, J.C. Cruse, Jarvis Wise and Jimmy Saros, played very well. And Tim Quinn has his best game of the season. L'Anse Creuse North had trouble getting shots off for the first three quarters."

If time of possession was kept in basketball, LCN would have probably had the ball for 24 minutes of the 32-minute game. The Crusaders worked the ball around, trying to get a good shot, but South kept denying LCN good looks at the basket.



State cuts

Danny Basile, left, and Michael Shook, right, achieved Division I state-qualifying times for Grosse Pointe South's boys swimming team in a season-opening loss to Ann Arbor Huron. In the center is new South coach Eric Gunderson. South had first-place finishes from Riley Sherer in the 50-yard freestyle, Jordan Long in diving and Basile in the 500 freestyle.

Knights fall in title game

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

The University Liggett School boys hockey team lost 3-0 to Birmingham Detroit Country Day in the championship game of the Holiday Tournament.

The host Knights were bottled up the entire game, getting only 16 shots on Yellowjackets goalkeeper Andrew Keila.

"We took a few too many penalties and gave up two powerplay goals," head coach Terry Olson said. "We won't win games with that combination."

Erik Rebbe had two goals and Blake Fielder added one to lead the Yellowjackets.

For the Knights, it was a disappointing ending, but positive in the fact that they are playing better than at this time last year.

"We're a young team, but the guys are hungry to win," Olson said. "We might have lost to a good Country Day team, but we made it to the finals and playing some good hockey."

The Knights blanked Warren-Sterling United 5-0 in their semifinal contest.

Senior goalkeeper Zach Keith posted his first shutout of

the season.

"The guys put together a solid game," Olson said. "The play was a little choppy in the final couple of periods, but our guys didn't get caught up in that. They just kept skating, passing and playing team hockey."

Junior Mike Thomas got the home team on the board in the opening period.

In the second stanza, junior Mike Burchi, senior Mike Zukas and freshman Tyler Suci scored to blow open a close game.

Zukas added his second tally of the game midway through the final period.



ULS senior goalie Zack Keith makes a save on his way to a 5-0 win against Warren-Sterling United in the first round game of the 2006 ULS Holiday Tournament.

Photograph correction

The identification of the Grosse Pointe North basketball player in a photograph on page 2C of the Dec. 14 edition of the Grosse Pointe News should have been Steve Wiczorek, not Frank Ferretti.

SPIKERS: North makes semifinals

Continued from page 1C

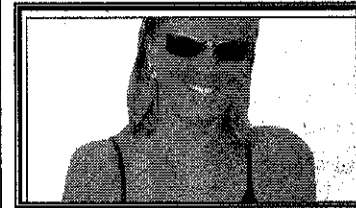
Heights Lamphere and Cranbrook Kingswood, then split two games with Dearborn and Utica Ford II.

In the quarterfinals, the Norsemen rolled past Madison Heights Bishop Foley 25-14, 25-13.

Kulek led North with 68 digs in the tournament. Nagel had 30 digs and 19 kills, while Kent had 30 digs and seven kills. Reno had six ace serves and 43 assists. Braker had 13 blocks and 19 kills. Klein contributed seven blocks and 25 kills.

ON SAIL By Sandra Svoboda

Here's a list for Santa



Dear (Sailing) Santa. I feel a little bit guilty asking you for anything this

Christmas because 2006 has been a heckuva year. I don't remember writing you a letter last year. Maybe I was just very good because you really came through for me in 2006:

◆ Sailing on Lake St. Clair or the Detroit River during nine months of this year

◆ A top-three finish at a national championship

◆ Wins at two match racing events and qualifying to the Great Lakes Match Racing Championship

◆ An amazing group of beginning sailors enrolled in a class I helped teach

◆ The other committed volunteer instructors who helped foster a love of the water in the students

◆ Other awesome volunteer umpires, judges and race committee and yacht club staff who make all our sailing possible

◆ Racing in five countries, including a world championship in Denmark

◆ Great weather for the Detroit NOOD regatta and most of the Tuesday night Sundown Series

◆ Amazing coverage of sailing in the local media

◆ A visit to the America's Cup harbor in Valencia, Spain

◆ A chance to write a sailing column for a great newspaper

◆ New friendships because of this sport

◆ Lots of sailing with long-time friends

◆ A race with my 74-year-old father on his boat on Lake Michigan - I don't think I'd raced with him in at least a decade.

So Santa, as you can see, it's going to be hard to top all that in 2007.

However, in case you're inclined to try, I have a few suggestions for gifts for me and maybe some other sailors on your list:

◆ New sailing gloves. These ALWAYS wear out. You can never have enough pairs hooked on your gear bag.

Besides, someone on the boat is always missing them, and it will make them really like you if you share.

◆ A sailing watch with buttons that won't get inadvertently pushed in the starting sequence. Speaking from experi-

ence in more than a few pre-starts this year (sorry to all my skippers!), having a reliable watch is really important.

◆ Regatta sponsors. We have some big and national events on the calendar for next year and they present great opportunities for local companies to get exposure. We have some creative ideas about how we can help each other from the smallest of club races to some national championships. Employee retreats could be part of the events. Have a meeting while the regatta is going on and then join the sailors for the party. Local media coverage of our great sport is increasing, and the sponsor logos can look really nice on clothing and sails.

◆ Speaking of sails, I'd really love some new ones for the Ultimate 20s at Bayview Yacht Club ...

◆ Successful knee surgery for my dog and favorite crew member, Bear. Faithful readers will remember he wrote one of the On Sail installments this year about his experience in the Grosse Pointe Sail Club Sundown Series (he got a third overall!). Unfortunately, his sailor's diet and lifestyle have gotten the better of his ACL, and he has surgery scheduled right after New Year's. His primary care veterinarian, Dr. Lawrence Herzog of Grosse Pointe Animal Clinic in the Park, promises that with proper rehab, he'll be ready for the 2007 sailing season.

◆ Sailing regularly with good friends, here or in more exotic locales.

◆ A plane ticket to see the America's Cup would be nice.

◆ Could you pay my yacht club bill, maybe just once?

Well, Santa, these are just suggestions, because you already came through with a great present this week: Having the U.S. Coast Guard abandon that ridiculous plan for live ammunition target practice on the Great Lakes was all the gift I need. Were your elves among the hundreds of letter writers opposing the project?

Thanks for letting them leave the workshop long enough to make their voices heard!

Anyway, I'll let you get back to readying the reindeer. If getting prepared for Christmas Eve is anything like the week before the Bayview Mackinac Race, you probably are ready for some eggnog.

Merry Christmas!

Sandra Svoboda lives in Grosse Pointe Park. She can be reached at OnSail@grossepointenews.com

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